



# AGAWAM Advertiser-News

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Volume XXI Number 10

"Your Hometown Newspaper"

March 12, 1998

*Increase Of \$1.6 Million Over Last Year...*

## School Dept. Proposes Budget Of \$21.9 Million For Fiscal 1998-1999

by Kathy Cassanelli  
News Editor

Released late last week, the School Department's proposed \$21.9 million budget for the upcoming school year reflects an increase of eight percent over the last school budget.

The School Department is currently engaged in collective bargaining with five bargaining units, the teachers' contract representing the single largest expense. While no specific information regarding the negotiations can be made public until agreement is reached between the School Department and the unions, money has been set aside in the salary reserve account in anticipation of successful negotiations. The total amount proposed for the salary reserve account (\$552,117) represents a 3.3 increase over the current level of salary spending.

School Superintendent Frank Ameruso said he is making good on his promise last year to make the theme for the next budget "the year of staffing" by setting aside \$448,620 to fund 15 new positions.

Overall, the School Department appropriations

are up \$1.6 million over last year.

"I'm very pleased with this budget," Ameruso said. "We said our focus would be on staffing and we've delivered on it without sacrificing supplies."

Ameruso said the budget represents the administration's best effort in supporting both the growth and the maintenance of the school district's educational programs and the needs of the school community.

In his budget message to the School Committee, Ameruso outlines eight specific areas being addressed by the increase in funding: contract negotiations, staffing, professional development, curriculum, pupil personnel services, special education, technology, and athletics/intramurals.

The new staff positions recommended in the superintendent's budget include:

- **Clark School:** one first-grade teacher, one-half reading recovery teacher, and one full-time adjustment counselor.

- **Phelps School:** one third-grade teacher.

- **Robinson Park School:** one-half kindergarten teacher to create a full-time integrated kindergarten class.

- **Middle School:** one full-time counselor.

- **Junior High School:** two world language teachers.

- **High School:** one science teacher, one math teacher, one social studies teacher, one resource teacher, one DLC teacher, and a full-time special education teaching assistant.

- One full-time substance abuse counselor will serve both the Junior High and High School.

In the area of professional development, Ameruso is proposing to spend \$75,000, an increase of \$25,000 over last year.

"By the time the 1998-1999 school year begins, the written curriculum will be 90 percent complete," Ameruso said. "It is absolutely imperative that we give total support to the profes-

SEE SCHOOL BUDGET - Page 2...

## A Teacher Who Made A Difference... After 38 Years, Tom Collins To Retire From Tech-Ed Dept.

by Kathy Cassanelli  
News Editor

In the nearly four decades since he was hired to head up the industrial arts program, Thomas Collins has been both literally and figuratively the architect of the current Technology Education Department. Instrumental in the design of the physical space occupied by the Tech-Ed Department at the Junior High and High Schools, Collins led the fight to allow girls into the program.

Last month, he was named "Teacher of the Year" by the Technology Educators Association of Massachusetts (TEAM). In June, he will retire 38 years after he let former School Superintendent James Clark talk him into coming to Agawam. After taking a look at the Tech-Ed Department in 1960, Collins was reluctant to take the job.

"At first I didn't want to come to Agawam," Collins remembered. "But, Jim Clark said if I gave him six months, he'd get me the money we would need to improve the program. And since then, the School Committee and superintendents have always been very supportive of us."

When school systems across the state felt the budgetary constraints forced by Proposition 2½, Collins managed to keep the department fully staffed, even if he had to forgo supplies to do it.

"Jim Bruno was superintendent then and I give him a lot of credit for keeping the program going. I told him we could make do without supplies as long as we had the teachers and that's how we managed," Collins said.

### Ability To "Make Do"

His ability to "make do" with limited funding during the lean years has always impressed School Committeewoman Teresa Kozloski, who first met Collins when the two battled school administrators to expand the Tech-Ed Program to include girls.

"He was wonderful at stretching the dollar to benefit all the kids," Mrs. Kozloski said. "He would go to businesses and see what he could get them to donate to the program and he was always able to make do. Even when he wanted more money for new machinery, he'd say he could make do with what money we were able to give him."

SEE THOMAS COLLINS - Page 10...



THOMAS COLLINS, who is retiring from the Technology Education Department in June, with Agawam High School students Trisha Doepeke and Jill Lungarini. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



## SCHOOL BUDGET - from Page 1...

sional development that is necessary to make sure this curriculum is properly taught."

**Proposals For Curriculum Writing & Textbooks**

To complete the work of aligning the school system's curriculum with the state frameworks, Ameruso is proposing to spend \$10,000 for curriculum writing and an additional \$136,365 for more textbooks. "This may be the year of staffing, but curriculum did not get lost in the process," Ameruso noted.

After a year-long study of guidance services, Ameruso is proposing to bring the total number of counselors at the High School up to five positions with the addition of .4 of a counseling position. The Middle School will have a full-time counselor by upgrading the current position. Clark School will gain a full-time adjustment counselor, and the High School will gain a full-time adjustment counselor by a change in assignment. The School Department will pick up the cost of the High School substance abuse counselor, which can no longer be funded through the Health Grant.

Grant funding for the part-time substance abuse counselor at the Junior High School has run out, so the High School's substance abuse counselor will divide his time between the two schools.

Funding for computers and software at the new library/media centers at the four elementary schools and for three new classrooms at the High School will be provided in the construction budgets for the five school expansion projects due for completion by the opening of school in the fall. Ameruso is proposing to hire one full-time library/media specialist and one assistant to staff the centers at the four elementary schools.

In interscholastic sports, the School Department is adding junior varsity boys' lacrosse, cross country, and volleyball (for both boys and girls). The salaries for the coaches are expected to be covered by gate receipts from the Athletic Department; the School Department budget will pick up the remaining \$16,000 needed to launch the new programs.

At the Middle School, the Junior High, and the High School, an intramural program will be reinstated at a cost of \$10,000. Ameruso said the intramural program is a step in the right direction, giving students athletic opportunities outside interscholastic competition.

check our classified

## Agawam Police Dept. Arrest Log For February 23rd-March 8th

On February 23, 1998, **Michelle Mancini** of River St., West Springfield was arrested and charged with violation of a restraining order and possession of a class "D" substance. Arresting officer was Paul Murphy.

On February 24, 1998, **Laura B. Grimaldi** of 23 Pinecrest Dr., Springfield was arrested and charged with driving while under the influence of alcohol and possession of a class "D" substance. Arresting officer was Steve Grasso.

On February 25, 1998, **Kevin C. Kane** of 41 Woodland Rd., Springfield was arrested and charged with possession of a class "D" substance. Arresting officer was Det. Mark Pfau.

On February 25, 1998, **Matthew B. Glushien** of 106 Bronson Terrace, Springfield was arrested and charged with possession of a class "D" substance. Arresting officer was Det. Michael Gruska.

On February 26, 1998, **Leonard E. Asselin** of 442 Holyoke St., Ludlow was arrested and charged with six outstanding arrest warrants, failure to stop for a police officer, resisting arrest, driving while under the influence of alcohol, giving a false name to a police officer, and driving after license revocation. Arresting officer was Steve Grasso.

On February 26, 1998, **Nathan G. Wooley** of 27 Hope Farms Dr., Feeding Hills was arrested and charged with filing a false police report, larceny under \$250.00, and an outstanding warrant. Arresting officer was Det. Gary O'Brien.

On February 27, 1998, **Deborah M. Laws** of 94 Pineview Circle, Agawam was arrested and charged with operating after license suspension. Arresting officer was Det. Mark Pfau.

On February 28, 1998, **Arthur Eddy** of 25 High St., Agawam was arrested and charged with breaking & entering in the nighttime and larceny over \$250.00. Arresting officer was Det. Michael Gruska.

On February 28, 1998, **Joseph J. Eddy** of 25 High Street, Agawam was arrested and charged with breaking & entering in the nighttime and larceny over \$250.00. Arresting officer was Det. Mark Pfau.

On March 1, 1998, **Jay W. Berger** of 33 Norman Terrace, Agawam was arrested and charged with driving while under the influence of alcohol and failure to stay within marked lanes. Arresting officer was Richard Riccio.

On March 2, 1998, **Kenneth M. Blake** of 40 Cesan St., Feeding Hills was arrested and charged with an outstanding warrant. Arresting officer was Ronald Brown.

On March 4, 1998, **Bruce E. Stanton** of 67 High St., Agawam was arrested and charged with domestic assault & battery. Arresting officer was Richard Riccio.

On March 4, 1998, **Ryan P. Gamache** of 120 Clover Hill Dr., Feeding Hills was arrested and charged with receiving stolen property over \$250.00. Arresting officer was Joe Dymon.

On March 5, 1998, **Antonio Martino** of 57 Valley Brook Road, Feeding Hills was arrested and charged with domestic assault & battery. Arresting officer was Michael Santore.

On March 5, 1998, **David M. Borowiec** of 362 Adams St., Longmeadow was arrested and charged with breaking & entering in the nighttime with intent to commit a felony, larceny over \$250.00, and possession of a hypodermic needle. Arresting officer was Richard Niles.

On March 5, 1998, **Donald H. Raymond** of 27 Converse St., Longmeadow was arrested and charged with breaking & entering in the nighttime with intent to commit a felony and larceny over \$250.00. Arresting officer was Richard Niles.

On March 6, 1998, **Kenneth A. Keyes** of 873 Springfield St., Agawam was arrested and charged with domestic assault & battery. Arresting officer was Richard Niles.

On March 7, 1998, **Matthew G. Jerry** of 116 Elm St., East Longmeadow was arrested and charged with an outstanding warrant. Arresting officer was Det. Michael Gruska.

On March 8, 1998, **Lawrence Cupidi** of 60 Cooley St., Agawam was arrested and charged with domestic assault & battery. Arresting officer was Richard Riccio.

Please remember that our deadline is each Tuesday at 12:00 noon ... ADVERTISER NEWS!!!

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- Benjamin Disraeli



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Private Stock - \$1.00 Off Ctns.

Marlboro - \$2.50 Off Ctns.,  
25¢ Off Packs  
Basic - \$2.50 Off Ctns.,  
25¢ Off Packs

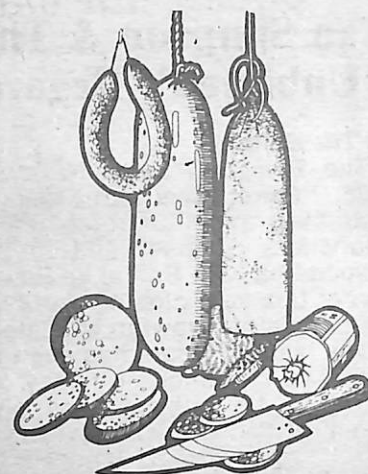
Salem - \$4.00 Off Ctns., 40¢ Off Packs  
Winston - \$3.00 Off Ctns., 30¢ Off Packs  
Doral & Monarch - \$3.00 Off Ctns.,  
30¢ Off Packs

Eve Ctns. - \$4.50 Off  
Eagle Ctns. - \$2.00 Off  
Pyramid Ctns. - \$3.00 Off

### From Our Deli

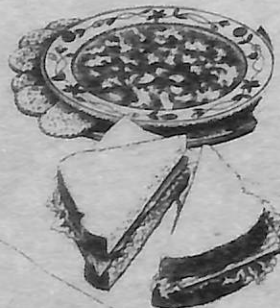


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DePalma Mortadella.....	\$2.99 Lb.
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## Letters To The Editor

### Jr. Women's Club Says 'Happy Birthday' To Jack Devine

#### To The Editor:

The Club members (all 40 of us) want to send our special wishes to Jack Devine on his 65th birthday. We have come to depend greatly on him for taking some of the best photos of our Club's activities.

You are truly a gifted person whom the community has come to appreciate. HOPE YOU HAD A GREAT DAY!!!

From all the members of the  
Agawam Junior Women's Club

### AHS's Parking Lot Needs Some Serious Cleaning Up

#### To The Editor:

As a resident of Agawam, and one who enjoys the beauty of the town, I am appalled at what I see in the parking lot of the Agawam High School.

I'm an avid runner who likes to run up Cooper St. and through the parking lot of Agawam High and when I have to step over trash such as cans, bottles, tires, and gym shorts, I get disgusted. I am a graduate of Agawam High and it never looked like it does today.

I realize that construction is going on at this time but this has been getting worse.

What can we do to save the beauty of the High School and the sidewalks that residents walk on?

Sincerely,  
D. Jones  
Agawam

### Can Simpson & Thompson Be "Unbiased" Regarding BP?

#### To The Editor:

The *Springfield Union News* article of March 9, 1998, "Power plant party spurs criticism" is very disturbing and illustrates that two of our City Councilors, Simpson and Thompson, value their association with Berkshire Power and its celebration of financial closing for their plant more than the people of Agawam who elected them.

The last 3½ years has seen Berkshire Power's pervasive influence of money on our city government, on its citizens, and civic and non-civic organizations, and we have also experienced our city being sued, our citizens being sued, and Berkshire Power have the state DPU override our zoning laws and forcing Agawam to accept the building of the power plant which the ZBA ruled against.

In light of this, Councilors Simpson and Thompson felt that attending Berkshire Power's private celebration at the Delaney House Restaurant in Holyoke was "no different than any of the other dozens of business-sponsored ceremonies councilors attend," and "she (Simpson) argued the Berkshire Power dinner was no different than an

event Riverside Park sponsored."

I know of no other business that sued the city, sued its citizens (lawsuit still active), had the state override our zoning laws, and in effect, force themselves upon us and is seeking a very favorable tax treaty with Agawam which the City Council must approve.

To try to equate Riverside Park or any other business events that the City Council is invited to is astonishing and insulting to the people of Agawam.

Some questions are raised from Councilor Simpson's and Councilor Thompson's statements and should be addressed and responded to by them to the citizens of Agawam, and are as follows:

1. Why wasn't the entire City Council invited to attend?
2. Why did you pay for this meal?
3. When did you pay the \$25?
4. Whose idea was it to pay the \$25?
5. Who else paid \$25 for their meal?
6. If you were willing to pay \$25 for their companionship, how can you honestly say that any decision to be made about them (BP) would be unbiased?

This behavior by these councilors adds to the growing cynicism of the Agawam citizens towards their government. More and more, when the people of Agawam look to their government, they see that a promise of a government for the people is, in reality, a government that works more for the well-connected and powerful few than for the people as a whole.

It is the obligation of our elected officials to restore trust back into our government.

Respectfully,  
Karl H. Stieg  
Spokesperson, CCBA

### "Team Teaching" Opponents Are Selfish & Short-Sighted

#### To The Editor:

I am writing this letter to express my disappointment with the recent vote of the AEA that overturned team teaching at the Junior High. I have followed the teaming issue since it was first presented to the School Committee and looked forward to having it in place when my daughter entered junior high next fall.

Mr. Littlefield and many dedicated staff members worked very hard to research and plan for the implementation of this program at the Junior High. It was endorsed by the Superintendent, the School Committee, and the leadership of the union. It was highly supported by parents. It was agreed by all that this was a very good thing for our kids. The only people who seem to disagree with teaming are the 56 teachers who voted it down.

There are nearly 300 teachers, 4,000 students, and 8,000 parents affected by a decision that was made by 56 people. I have to ask, where are the other 185 or so teachers that are represented by the teachers' union? Does the future of our kids mean so little to you that you could not take 15 minutes from your schedule to go to the High School to vote on an issue that affects so many people? Do you feel that since it doesn't directly affect you, that you could leave it in the hands of others? The lack of turnout for this vote is almost as upsetting as the outcome. This apathy speaks volumes to me about where the priorities of the union lie.

I read with great interest the article in the paper which cited the reasons given by those teachers who did vote against teaming. I hate to say it, but they are selfish and short-sighted. They sound like hollow excuses to me. It was stated that this program is not proven to be beneficial. I think that

the research done by the steering committee clearly shows that this program is beneficial.

Teaming is used in almost every surrounding town with great success. It also seems that there was a fear that if the Junior High got what they needed, the other schools might lose out. That sounds like playground mentality to me. I thought the school system, the administrators, the teachers, and the parents were all in this together, that we were all on the same team, you know, the one where the kids win. How sad to find out I was wrong.

Working to make a school system better takes time. Nothing changes overnight. The AEA had a chance to take a giant step forward. It's so very sad that they let 56 people take us two steps backward.

Sincerely,  
Deborah J. Sekula  
Agawam

### The Sacrifices Of Families With Special Needs Children

#### To The Editor:

I'd like to thank everyone responsible for the Epilepsy Awareness dance on Saturday, March 7th, at Chez Josef. The names are too numerous to mention, but as usual, it was a wonderful evening.

As I sat and listened to Mrs. Pietroniro and Mrs. Martel convey their individual experiences concerning Michael and Nicole, I couldn't help but think what remarkable and courageous women they are. However, since that was so blatantly obvious to those of us in attendance, I'd like to take things a step further and share my thoughts beyond those extraordinary ladies.

Though I would never want to walk in their shoes, many others do daily and I'm not sure they get the support they so desperately need. I'm referring to the other family members who live with epilepsy everyday as well and they stay in the background and try to retain some shred of normalcy out of everyday life; of going to school and coming home with homework, of playing sports (knowing full well that sometimes the bleachers remain empty), and hanging out with friends after the extra chores are done.

They do what comes naturally, yet they sacrifice so much. They love their sibling who struggles, but they struggle, too, and nobody

SEE LETTERS - Page 5...

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Sponsored By  
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Saturday, March 14th  
"Car Seat Safety" seminar for parents  
At Agawam Police Station Community Room  
Beginning at 10:00 a.m.  
(Call 786-4767 to register)

Monday, March 16th  
Free hearing screenings & hearing aid checks  
At Agawam Senior Center  
Beginning at 9:00 a.m.  
Call 786-0400, ext. 242 for a reservation

Tuesday, March 17th  
Agawam Junior Women's Club  
At Captain Charles Leonard House  
(Topic: visit from AFS students)  
7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, March 18th  
Agawam Lions Club's Annual  
Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner  
At Agawam Middle School  
5:00 to 7:00 p.m.  
Adults, \$6.50; children, \$3.50 (tickets available from Agawam Lions Club members or at the door)

Saturday, March 21st  
Attic Treasures & Craft Fair  
(presented by Agawam Women's Club)  
At Agawam Baptist Church, Main Street  
9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

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LETTERS - from Page 4...

throws them a party or calls for daily reports on their health or state of mind.

Sometimes important events come and go, and Mom can't be there because she's with her "other" child and Dad is off working, supporting his family financially and paying those medical bills. The brothers and sisters always take "second place," and they know it can't be helped — or do they?

I'd like to commend those young men and women for having the guts to accept that things aren't always fair in life; somebody always has to give in or give up. Life really stinks at times, but they wouldn't trade places with any other family because they love their "special" sibling and they would do anything to help.

As the mother of a special needs child, I, too, try to spread myself between three sons while working as a teacher assistant in Michael Pietroniro's class at James Clark School. No matter how hard I try, it seems that one always demands and usually receives my undivided attention.

The two others just roll their eyes and say, "Sure, it's him again." They say this to themselves, of course, because they know I don't want to hear it because I'm doing the best I can — but am I?

I promise myself every Saturday afternoon at 4:00 p.m., while I'm kneeling at St. Mary's Church, that I will give myself unselfishly to all of my children; I promise God as well. I will be the best mom any child would ever want, and every week I fail; I fail because I'm only human.

I fail because there are only so many hours in a day; I fail because I have someone who needs my constant attention and reassurance. But, wait a minute here — don't they all need the same

things?

My oldest is a senior and checking out colleges. What a nightmare! Filling out forms and financial aid applications is like applying for the next shuttle run to the moon. What are the chances?

My middle son is a seventh grader at the Junior High. A bright and very likeable boy, yet so caught up in the realities of being a teenager of the 90's. What a lonesome place that must be.

Every day when I get home from work (I'm always the last one through the door), I ask my boys about their day and I proceed to the kitchen to whip up some semblance of a balanced meal. Please don't ask my children how successful I am; they're constantly asking me about Pizza Hut! "Do you think money grows on trees?" I ask. (Oh my God — someone stop me before I turn into my mother!)

\*\*\*

All joking aside, I want my children to know that I love them all. I'm there for them whenever they need me, even if I'm not in the same room or building with them. I respect and appreciate their patience with me and their "special" brother as well, and I know they love us, too.

Can I change the way things are? Probably not! I can change my schedule, and I will start doing more of that to spend as much time with my other children as I do with their brother.

I will not sweat the small stuff. I will, however, treasure precious moments and be reminded of how quickly they go by.

For the record — Pam, Elsie, Sharon, and Teresa ... you are my heroes, too! Hang in there; your children, all of your children, need and love you.

Hang in there!

Debra Curtis  
Agawam

## Ag. Town Council Agenda For Monday, March 16th

1. Citizen's Speak Time
2. Roll Call
3. Moment of Silence and the Pledge of Allegiance.
4. Minutes - Regular Council Meeting of 3/2/98
5. Declaration from Council President
6. Presentation of Petitions, Memorials & Remonstrances

### (a) Resolutions

1. TR-98-6-A Resolution Authorizing the Mayor to Enter into a Lease Agreement for use of Property Located at 733 Main St., Agawam, MA by the Head Start Program (Mayor).

2. TR-98-7-A Resolution Approving Sewer and Water Connection and Service Charges Fixed by the Department of Public Works (Mayor).

3. TR-98-8-A Resolution Authorizing the Mayor to Submit a Housing Development Support Program Application and Accept Funding on the Behalf of the Town of Agawam to the Mass. Department of Housing and Community Development (Mayor).

### 7. Report of Council Committees

None.

### 8. Elections

None.

### 9. Public Hearings

None.

### 10. Old Business

(a)

1. TOR-98-1-An Ordinance to Amend Section 49-7(8) of the Code of the Town of Agawam to Create the Position of Personnel Assistant (Mayor)(2nd Reading).

#### LEGAL NOTICE

#### LEGAL NOTICE

##### TOWN OF AGAWAM BOARD OF APPEALS

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Appeals will conduct a public hearing at the Agawam Middle School Cafeteria, 68 Main St., Agawam, MA on THURSDAY, MARCH 26, 1998 at 6:30 P.M. for all parties interested in the appeal of GENESIS HEALTH VENTURES OF AGAWAM,

INC., which is seeking to modify a previous Special Use Permit, Case No. 1467 in accordance with Section 180-11, Paragraph H of the Zoning Ordinances, which would allow for the "sub-division" of a parcel of land as detailed in Plan dated February 10, 1998 for the premises identified as: 462 MAIN STREET.

Ronald A. Hebert  
Chairman

Published: March 12, 1998

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## CCBA Says Officials Should Not Attend Berkshire Power Dinner

According to Karl H. Stieg, spokesperson for the Concerned Citizens and Business of Agawam (CCBA), "It has been noted by the CCBA that Berkshire Power has extended an invitation to our elected and non-officials to attend their 'celebration of our (BP) civic partnership with the Town of Agawam' and to promote being a 'Good Neighbor in Agawam' celebration dinner dance at the Oaks on March 20th.

"The CCBA recognizes Berkshire Power's right to invite whoever they wish to their celebration. We do, however, take exception to our elected and non-elected officials attending and strongly believe that taking part, however innocently those intentions may be, would leave a cloud of suspicion with us as well as the citizens of Agawam," said Stieg.

"Unfortunately, Berkshire Power's public relation statements, including 'Good Neighbor in Agawam' and 'civic partnership with the Town of Agawam,' are superficial and unfounded in fact and deed and a review of actual facts tell a different story than that being offered by BP for public consumption and are as follows:

1. "Berkshire Power Development Inc. sued Agawam Zoning Board of Appeals after being denied a permit to build. The ZBA decision to deny the building of the power plant was upheld by the State Appeals Court in Boston.

2. "Berkshire Power petitioned the State Department of Public Utilities for an exemption to Agawam's zoning by-laws and were granted the exemption.

3. "Berkshire Power Development, Inc. filed a SLAPP lawsuit against Agawam citizens who

were members and nonmembers of the CCBA.

4. "Agawam City Council voted for a resolution requesting Berkshire Power to drop their lawsuit against the citizens of Agawam. Berkshire Power's response to the City Council was a resounding NO.

5. "To this day, Berkshire Power is still suing the citizens of Agawam and still refuses the wishes of the City Council.

6. "The City Council officially voted last October not to support Berkshire Power building their power plant in Agawam.

7. "The City Council must take up the issue of a Tax Treaty or In-Lieu-of-Tax agreement and issue permits for the plant, attending this dinner-dance could possibly influence the City Councilors to the above and may not be made in the best interest of Agawam.

8. "The CCBA believes that attendance by Agawam city department heads could possibly bring undue influence on them in the enforcement of the various laws and building codes, both city and state," he said.

"At the City Council meeting of March 2nd, City Councilor Ed Caba stated that he will not attend and stated that it was his opinion that attending this function would be totally inappropriate.

"The CCBA respectfully requests and believes that the attendance of all elected and non-elected officials invited by Berkshire Power is very inappropriate due to Berkshire Power's indifference to our zoning laws, our City Council votes, and their disdainful actions towards our citizens and constitutes nothing more than influence peddling," concluded Stieg.

## FireWise...

by Fire Chief David Pisano

### Fire Safety Tips For Senior Citizens

If you are age 65 or older, you are your own best insurance against fire and burn injuries. Fire safety isn't just for children because (like children) older Americans are at a greater risk of being injured or killed from fires or burn injuries than other adults. The Agawam Fire Department encourages you to take some time to look for and correct fire hazards around your home.

Make sure you have at least one working smoke detector on each level of your home. They should be tested once a month, and the battery should be changed annually.

Have an escape plan. Know two ways out of every room in case fire or smoke block one way out. Remember, during a fire the breathable air is close to the floor, so crawl low under smoke. Once you get out, stay out and call the fire department (911) from a neighbor's. Keep your glasses and a flashlight by your bed.

If you smoke or have smokers in your home, extra precautions should be taken. Each year careless smoking is a major cause of fires. A lit cigarette that falls onto a bed or sofa can smoulder for hours. You should never smoke in bed or when lying down.

Make sure large, deep ashtrays are used and

that all smoking materials have been extinguished completely. Dispose of butts in a metal container or douse with water before emptying into a trash can.

The kitchen is another area that can be very dangerous if certain precautions are not followed. Make sure your stove is clean and free of grease build-up. Keep flammables, such as towels and pot holders, away from the stove and oven.

Turn pot handles away from the front of the stove so they won't be knocked off or pulled down. If you're called away from the kitchen during food preparation, turn all burners off. If you have a stove fire, put a lid on it, turn off the heat, and let it cool.

Many fires are caused by home heating. You should have your heating system checked annually by a qualified professional. If you use portable electric or kerosene heaters, make sure they have at least three feet of clearance around them while in operation and always follow the manufacturer's instructions for their use.

Make sure you've insured your safety at home by knowing what to do in case of a fire. Contact the Agawam Fire Department at 786-2662 if you have any questions or need more information.

#### LEGAL NOTICE

#### LEGAL NOTICE

TOWN OF AGAWAM  
AGAWAM TOWN COUNCIL  
APPROVED ORDINANCE TOR-97-13

Ordinance Amendment-Town Code-Chapter 180, Article XIV entitled Personal Wireless Services Facilities, Towers & Repeaters.  
Said Ordinance is of a length too cumbersome

for publication. Accordingly, copy of said ordinance is available for reference at the office of the City Clerk, 36 Main Street, Agawam, MA between the hours of 8:30 A.M. and 4:30 P.M. Monday through Friday.

PER ORDER OF THE AGAWAM CITY COUNCIL  
Donald M. Rheault, President  
Agawam City Council

Published: March 12, 1998

## Melconian Champions Bill To Raise The State's Minimum Wage

Underscoring her constant and vigorous support of working men and women in Hampden County, Senate Assistant Majority Leader Linda J. Melconian (D-Springfield) has co-sponsored and will champion a bill to raise the state's minimum wage by \$1.50 over the next three years.

"It is shameful that in an industrialized nation with great wealth and prosperity, individuals working full-time are still unable to rise above the poverty level," Melconian said. "This legislation would allow minimum wage workers to rise above the poverty level and provide an adequate living for themselves and their families."

The minimum wage legislation would mirror national legislation proposed by U.S. Senator Edward Kennedy by raising the minimum wage .50 cents a year in each of the next three years. This would push Massachusetts' minimum wage from \$5.25 an hour to \$6.75 in 2001. Kennedy's legislation would increase the national minimum wage from \$5.15 to \$6.50 over the same time period.

"This is an important legislative issue that affects thousands of our workers, especially women," Melconian said. "Over 60 percent of minimum wage workers are women, which also makes this a women's equity issue."

The minimum wage bill will be sent to the Joint Committee on Commerce and Labor. "No one can support a family on \$5.25 an hour," Melconian said. "With a booming state economy, it is imperative that the state does not leave people at the lower end of the economic scale at financial risk. We owe our working men and women an adequate and fair wage."

## Keenan Advocates For County Pension Reform

State Representative Daniel F. Keenan and his colleagues are continuing their work to prevent a potential increase in assessments on member communities of the Hampden County Retirement System.

Hampden County government will be abolished on July 1, 1998.

Keenan emphasized that the pensions of city, town, and former county employees will not be changed in any way by the legislation which abolished Hampden County.

"These pensions were earned and will not be adversely affected," Keenan concluded.

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## Tax Tip From The IRS... Check Your Returns For Common Errors

A surefire way to slow a tax refund or to get a notice from the Internal Revenue Service is to be careless when filling out a tax return. It's worth taking a few extra minutes to look over the return before sending it on its way.

Mistakes on an income tax return can slow processing while the IRS makes corrections or writes to ask for missing items. People expecting refunds will have to wait until the mistakes get ironed out. And many of the more common errors could easily be eliminated if people took the time to double check their returns.

People should look at each line to be sure that the right information is on the right line. Go over the math to avoid mistakes in figuring total income, taxable income, balance due, or refund amounts.

Correctly write names and Social Security numbers on each form and schedule. Also check the address. Make changes directly on the label.

Many people make the mistake of using a tax amount from the wrong column in the tax table, or they forget to sign and date the return. On a joint return, both husband and wife must sign and date it.

For those rushing to meet the tax deadline on April 15th at midnight, put the correct postage on the envelope before dropping it in the mail.

One last reminder: people can file electronically from a personal computer or through a tax professional. The error rate of electronic returns is less than one percent.

This means people who use an electronic filing option are much less likely to get a notice from the IRS because of mistakes typically associated with paper filing. IRS computers automatically check for errors or missing information before accepting electronic returns. And the IRS sends an acknowledgement when it accepts the return.

So when it comes to your tax return, check it out, then send it on.

## ADVERTISER NEWS

## Phone Numbers Of Elected Officials

### 1998 City Council Members

**Donald M. Rheault, President**  
536 Mill Street  
Feeding Hills  
786-4043

**Robert A. Magovern, Vice-President**  
144 Birch Hill Road  
Agawam  
789-0171

**George Bitzas**  
33 Fernwood Drive  
Agawam  
789-1464

**Edward A. Caba**  
198 Walnut Street  
Agawam  
786-2479

**Gary F. Geiger**  
33 Zachary Lane  
Agawam  
789-6756

**Gina M. Letellier**  
150 Maple Street  
Agawam  
786-4723

**John J. Negrucci**  
35 Hayes Avenue  
Feeding Hills  
789-2887

**Dennis J. Perry**  
466 North West Street  
Feeding Hills  
786-1238

**Jill P. Simpson**  
24 Pleasant Valley Road  
Feeding Hills  
786-0053

**Nancy E. Thompson**  
19A Mansion Woods Drive  
Agawam  
786-0586

**Robert M. Young**  
216 South Westfield Street  
Feeding Hills  
786-8995

### 1998 School Committee Members

**Christopher C. Johnson, Chairman**  
88 Morningside Circle  
Feeding Hills  
786-6297

**Linda Galarneau, Vice Chairwoman**  
24 Sycamore Terrace  
Agawam  
789-2323

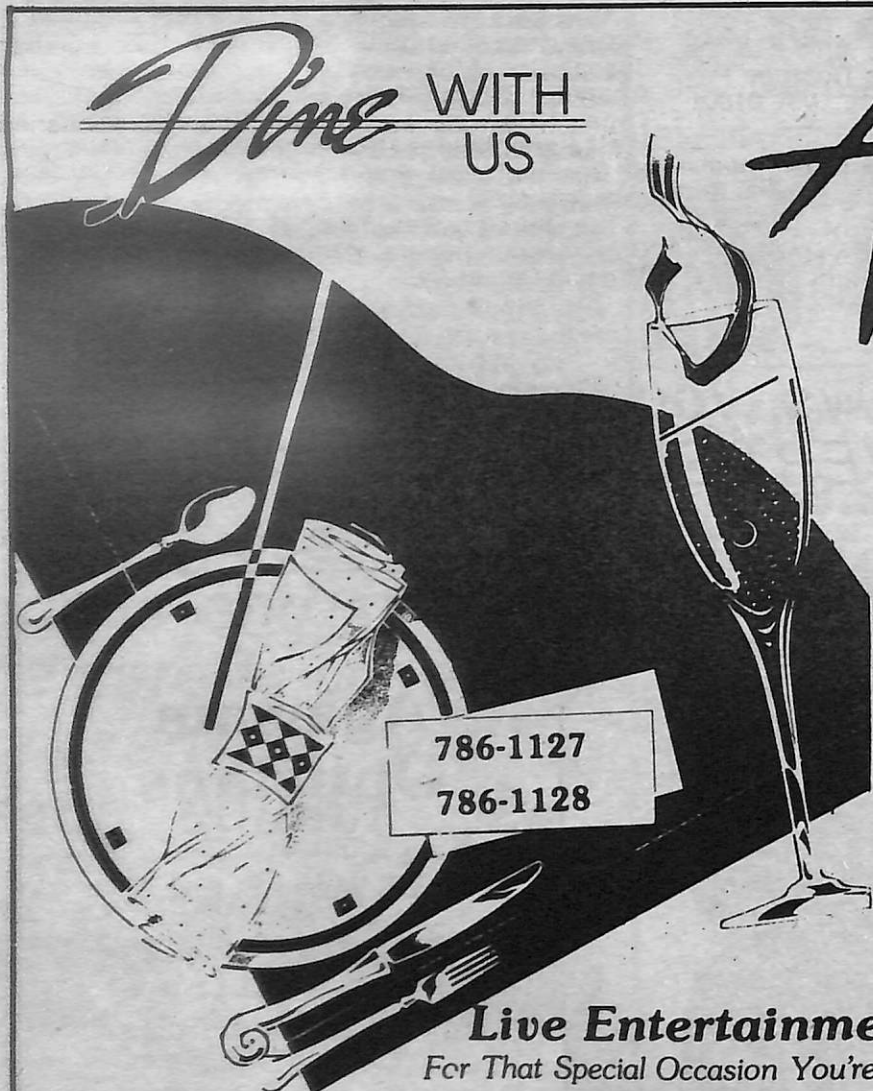
**Roberta Doering, Secretary**  
915 River Road  
Agawam  
786-2323

**Teresa Kozloski**  
102 Meadow Street  
Agawam  
786-6934

**Louis Massoia, Jr.**  
6 Sequoia Drive  
Feeding Hills  
786-5785

**Susan Pettazzoni**  
116 Granger Drive  
Feeding Hill  
786-9699

**Rosemary Sandlin**  
90 Granger Drive  
Feeding Hills  
786-3256



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Not Valid On Holidays

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With This Coupon

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## — Agawam Obituaries —

### Erminio A. Demastrie

Erminio A. ("Edward") Demastrie, 83, of Lee Lang Terrace, West Springfield, died at Mercy Hospital in Springfield.

He was a four-year project engineer for Crane Paper Co., and previously a 10-year plant engineer for Parson Paper Co. in Holyoke.

Born in Adams, he lived in Agawam before moving to West Springfield in 1985.

He was an Army veteran of World War II, and an area musician for many years.

He played with the Alan Grieve and Sammy Vincent Bands, and belonged to the Pittsfield Local of the American Federation of Musicians.

He leaves his wife, the former Dorothy M. O'Brien; four sons, Roger E. of West Springfield, Allen W. of Agawam, Dennis W. of Bloomfield, CT, and Jack A. of Westfield; two sisters, Judy Esoldi of Pittsfield, and Ida Bormolini of Cherry Hill, New Jersey; six grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

A memorial service was held at Toomey-O'Brien Funeral Home, with the burial at the convenience of the family.

Memorial contributions may be made to the American Liver Foundation, 80 Sunrise Terrace, Cedar Grove, New Jersey 07009.

### Jean Patruski

Jean (Zadroja) Patruski, 78, of Montcalm Street, Chicopee, died at Mercy Hospital in Springfield.

She was a timekeeper at the former GTD Co. of Greenfield.

Born in Greenfield, she was a 32-year resident of Springfield, and lived in Agawam before moving to Chicopee.

Her husband, August Patruski, died in 1992.

She leaves a daughter, Diane McAlpine of Granby; six grandchildren; and a great-granddaughter.

The funeral was held at Springfield Funeral Home and Our Lady of the Rosary Church in Springfield, with the burial at St. Stanislaus's Cemetery in Chicopee.

Memorial contributions may be made to the church at 28 Underwood Street, Springfield, MA 01104.

### William Fortier

William "Bill" Fortier, 31, of 39 Meadowbrook Manor, Agawam, died at home.

He worked for the New North Citizens Council in Springfield.

He was born in Springfield, and was a long-time resident of Agawam.

He was a graduate of Agawam High School, and served as senior class president. He also was a graduate of Westfield State College, and attended Springfield College.

He was a communicant of the Sacred Heart Church, and belonged to the Dante Club. He was also a member of Teen Encounter, a Catholic Youth Group.

He leaves his parents, Thomas and Andrea (Magni) Fortier of Feeding Hills; two brothers, Thomas Jr. of Windsor, CT, and Michael in Italy; a sister, Marie Fortier of Feeding Hills; and his paternal grandmother, Helen (Shea) Fortier of Westfield.

The funeral was held at Toomey-O'Brien Funeral Home and the church, with the burial in Springfield Street Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Our Lady of Hope Community, in care of the Rev. Robert Baker, Christ the King Church, 742 Arlington Road, Jacksonville, Florida 32211, or to the MDA, 33 Lyman Street, Suite 304 B, Westboro, MA 01581.

### Jean E. Raiche

Jean E. (Robinson) Raiche, 72, of 300 South Street, Agawam, a retired secretary at Broadway Office Supply Co. in Springfield, died at home.

Born in Springfield, she was a 1943 graduate of Commerce High School. She was a long-time resident of Agawam, and a communicant of St. Theresa's Church, where she was a chairwoman of the 1982 and 1983 Christmas bazaars.

She was an officer of the South Street School Parent-Teacher Association, and a den mother for Cub Scout Pack 77 for seven years. She received the Den Mothers Training Award.

She also was a volunteer for the Catholic Charities Appeal and the American Heart Association.

She leaves her husband of 52 years, Philippe Raiche; two sons, Donald of Lenox, and David of Agawam; two brothers, Paul Fieldstad of Agawam, and George Robinson of North Carolina; and four grandchildren.

The funeral was held at Agawam Funeral Home and the church, with the burial in Center Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to the church's Confraternity of Christian Doctrine Program at 74 Bridge Street, Agawam, MA 01001-1241.

### William W. Blake-Haskins

William W. Blake-Haskins, 80, of Hastings Street, Feeding Hills, died at Holyoke Hospital.

He taught in the Edisto Island, South Carolina,

public schools for 30 years, and retired in 1981. He taught previously in New Jersey for many years.

Born in Staten Island, New York, he was a 23-year resident of Edisto Island.

He attended Erasmus Hall in Brooklyn, New York, and received an undergraduate degree from Ryder College in Trenton, New Jersey, and a graduate degree in education from Columbia University.

He was a Navy veteran of World War II, and served aboard the USS Dixie, USS Actair, and USS Hammondsport. He was in the Navy Reserves in 1946-50 and the Air Force in 1958-76.

He received an American defense ribbon, a Victory Medal, and an Asiatic-Pacific theater ribbon.

He leaves his wife, the former Lois E. Johnson; two sons, John Blake-Haskins of Piscataway, New Jersey, and Fred W. Hannon of Punta Gorda, Florida; a daughter, the Reverend Ann Geer of Feeding Hills; five grandchildren; and a great-granddaughter.

A memorial service will be scheduled, and the burial will be in Rhode Island. Alternative Funeral Services of Springfield is in charge of the arrangements.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Council of Churches, 32 Ridgewood Place, Springfield, MA 01105.

### George E. Nye

George E. Nye, 79, formerly of Verdugo Street, West Springfield, died in a local nursing home.

He was the former owner of Quality Pattern Co. of Agawam. He worked later at Moldcraft Inc. in Westfield, and retired in 1983.

Born in Springfield, he was raised in Enfield, and lived in West Springfield most of his life.

He was a member of West Springfield-Agawam Elks Lodge 2174, and was treasurer of its golf league. He also belonged to American Legion Post 207.

He was an Army veteran of World War II. He was predeceased by his first wife, the former Ida Mae Coons, and his second wife, the former Martha B. Diegel.

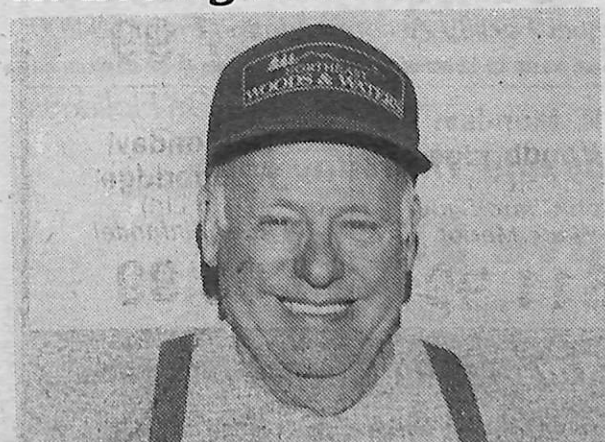
He leaves four sons, Richard E. of Onalaska, Washington, George E. Nye, Jr. of Dallas, Texas, Joseph C. of Albany, New York, and Thomas R. of Charlotte, North Carolina; a daughter, M. Adeline Lapa of Chicopee; a stepson, Robert J. Page of West Springfield; a stepdaughter, Karen Wassung of Russell; eight grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

The funeral was held at West Springfield Curran-Jones Funeral Home, with the burial in St. Thomas Cemetery.

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## Melconian Praises "Whistleblower Legislation"

Senate Assistant Majority Leader Linda J. Melconian (D-Springfield) announced unanimous Senate passage of legislation to prohibit private sector employers from taking retaliatory action against an employee who reports a violation of the law, testifies regarding such violation or refuses to participate in any illegal acts.

The "whistleblower protection" legislation already applies to public sector employees in the execution of their duties. While adding private sector and healthcare employees to the protected list, it requires employees to report the employer's activity in writing to a supervisor and allow the employer the opportunity to correct this activity. However, if the employee fears for his or her safety, the reporting requirement can be waived.

"This is an important protection for working men and women," Melconian said. "No job should be put in jeopardy because an individual is doing the right thing and reporting a violation."

If an employer retaliates against an employee, the Attorney General may bring action against the employer. The court may require the employer to pay to the state a civil penalty of not more than \$10,000 for each violation as well as the cost of attorney and expert witness fees.

"Hopefully, these potential penalties will dissuade employers from using scare and disciplinary tactics against their hard-working employees," Melconian said. "These types of actions have no place in our workplace or society."

The legislation now moves to the House of Representatives.

## Employment Program For Hampden County Residents 55 & Over

City of Springfield's Health and Human Services Department manages a Hampden-wide employment and training program. Persons must be at least 55 years-old, reside in Hampden County, and meet program income guides.

There are two methods utilized to gain employment:

1) One is classroom training which is provided to those who want to change careers or need to update their present skills in order to compete for employment.

2) The other training is on-the-job training. The employer provides the skills training for the new employee and retrain the successful trainee.

Training tuition fees are free to eligible mature workers.

If you are interested in gaining employment, call (413) 787-6861.

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## Agawam Republican City Committee Elects Delegates To Massachusetts Convention

The Agawam Republican City Committee held a caucus March 6th at 7:00 p.m. in the Faolin Peirce Community Room, to elect delegates to the Massachusetts Republican Convention to be held in April.

Committee Chairman Robert Danie announced the results of the balloting. Twenty delegates, one alternate delegate and four ex officio delegates plan to attend the convention.

They are Cindy Sanford-Taylor; Priscilla Peter-

son; Andrew Campbell; Edward Kellogg; William Euliano; Kent Lage; Rita Moore; Virginia Lake; Ronald Bennett; Grace Argirio; Mark McCormick; Anthony Bonavita; Ronald Lariviere; Peggy Taylor; Vincent Callahan; Michael Lariviere; Ric Sardella; Anna Johnson; Ray Wychoff; Joe Langone; Mary Hunter, and ex officio Mayor Christopher C. Johnson, Republican Committee Chairman; Robert Danie, Council Vice Chairman; Robert McGovern; and City Councilor George Bitzas.

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 <b>Bud Dry</b> (Case - Bar Bottles) <b>\$9.99</b> Plus Deposit	 <b>Heineken</b> (12 Pk. Bottles) <b>\$9.99</b> Plus Deposit	 <b>Seagram's Wine Coolers</b> (4 Pk.) <b>\$2.99</b> (All Flavors)
 <b>Amstel Light</b> (12 Pk. Bottles) <b>\$9.99</b> Plus Deposit	 <b>Smirnoff Vodka</b> (1.75 Ltr.) <b>\$15.49</b>	 <b>Seagram's 7</b> (1.75 Ltr.) <b>\$12.99</b>
 <b>Bacardi Rum</b> (1.75 Ltr.) <b>\$15.99</b>	 <b>Seagram's Gin</b> (1.75 Ltr.) <b>\$12.99</b>	 <b>Clan MacGregor Scotch</b> (1.75 Ltr.) <b>\$12.99</b>

### WINES

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<p><b>DeLoach Russian River Chardonnay</b> (750 ml.)</p> <p><b>\$14.99</b></p>	<p><b>Joseph Phelps Insignia</b> <i>1993 Vintage</i> (750 ml.)</p> <p><b>\$45.99</b></p>	<p><b>R. Mondavi Woodbridge</b> (1.5 Ltr.) <i>Cab/Chard/Sauv Blanc/Merlot</i></p> <p><b>\$11.99</b></p>	<p><b>R. Mondavi Woodbridge</b> (1.5 Ltr.) <i>White Zinfandel</i></p> <p><b>\$8.99</b></p>

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RTE. 20  
WESTFIELD  
568-4377

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**THOMAS COLLINS - from Page 1...**

Collins credits Mrs. Kozloski with helping him convince the School Department to allow girls into the woodworking class at the Middle School 20 years ago. Long before running for the School Committee, Mrs. Kozloski locked horns with school administrators when her daughters wanted to attend woodshop class rather than home economics.

A not-exactly-straight screwdriver serves as a reminder of that battle. "Whenever I look at the screwdriver Lena (her daughter) made, I think it's the greatest thing," Mrs. Kozloski said. "Lena is an architect today. She's the project architect in charge of designing the buildings for the new state veterans' cemetery."

"I was thankful she helped us convince the 'powers that be' to let the young ladies into the program," Collins said. "Eventually, it was decided that all the boys and girls would take both home ec and shop classes at the Middle School and the Junior High."

In looking back over the years of building the Tech-Ed Program into a State Department of Education designated model for technology education, Collins is quick to give thanks and credit to school administrators, principals, and especially to his teaching staff.

"We're designated as a model school system by the state and educators who come here to see our program can't believe what we're doing with our kids," Collins commented. "We have a great program and we've kept a lot of kids in high school who wouldn't have stayed if not for the caring teachers in our department. I've been very lucky with the staff I've got."

**An Array Of Courses**

AHS Principal Joseph Zabielski agreed. "I don't think there are too many schools that have Tech-Ed Departments with the array of courses we have for our students and that's due to Tom and his staff. He's committed to the program and he has always been willing to go the extra mile; we could always count on him to be more than willing to do whatever we asked of him."

Besides offering courses in manufacturing, electricity, computer aided drafting, and auto body, the Tech-Ed Department offers courses in robotics, graphic arts, architectural drafting, and visual communication technology.

Two years ago, Collins added a photography course that has become a magnet attracting the female students he fought so hard to allow access to the program at the Middle School and Junior High.

"Photography has really taken off and we're attracting the female population who have suddenly discovered that downstairs is a great place to be," Collins said.

Although all students at the Middle School and Junior High take technology education, there is no requirement for students to enroll in Tech-Ed courses at the High School. Collins would like to see that change since the new state assessment testing mandated by Education Reform will cover technology questions.

"After they do the sample testing, people are going to be scurrying around trying to get the students prepared," Collins predicted.

A 1959 graduate of Fitchburg State College, Collins earned his master's degree in education at Westfield State College and has continued to take post-grad courses at several area colleges and universities. He has served as a member of the Department of Education Advisory Committee on technology education for many years, and has been a long-time member of the Massachusetts Teachers Association's Occupational Education Committee.

On the national level, Collins has been a consultant with the National Science Foundation and NASA in creating national technology education standards.

According to his friend and colleague, Tech-Ed liaison teacher John Burns, Collins will be missed as a champion for the students and as someone who paid attention to the details and was willing to do whatever he had to do to get the job done.

*Please remember that our deadline is each Tuesday at 12:00 noon; however, we appreciate any articles, press releases, etc., that can be brought in on Mondays...*



**AGAWAM HIGH SCHOOL students Mike Aloisi and David Preston with Tech-Ed teacher Thomas Collins, who is retiring this June.** Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

"We're going to miss a champion, not just for technology education, but for all the kids," Burns said.

Looking forward to doing some traveling when his wife retires from her job as a children's librarian in Westfield, Collins is confident he's leaving the Tech-Ed Program in good hands.

"The fellas here and at the Junior High and Middle School are all professionals who are going to keep this program going forward," Collins said.

While he plans on keeping busy, Collins hasn't quite decided what he'll be doing in retirement (besides golfing, fishing, and traveling). He's sure he won't return to teaching. He's always wanted to work in a hardware store. But, then there's that fully-equipped woodworking shop he has at home—the source of a never-ending trail of sawdust coming into the house.

One thing's for sure, he won't be idle while he's waiting for his wife to retire in the fall. For one thing, there are the projects he wants to do around the house.

For another thing, there are the projects his friends and neighbors are already lining up...

## Happy 30th JoAnn



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Mom, Dad, Bill &  
Elizabeth

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## Families

### Lavene's Continues To Help Big Brothers Big Sisters

Arnold Goldstein of Agawam, owner and manager of Lavene's men's fashions in downtown Springfield, began a program for his customers several years ago that ultimately helps at-risk children in the community.

Goldstein holds a "trade-in sale" at specific times of the year for which he takes in trade high quality clothing, mostly suits, towards new merchandise. The trade-ins are clean, fashionable, and are of good value.

As a community service project, Goldstein recently donated the suits and other items such as sweaters and shoes to the Hartsprings Foundation, the ongoing donation collection service of Big Brothers Big Sisters (BBBS) of Hampden County.

#### Sent Directly To Store

Big Brothers Big Sisters sent a truck to the store with the familiar awning located at 1163 Main St., to pick up the merchandise as part of its partnership with businesses and institutions that wish to help less fortunate children in Hampden County.

"I'll know that someone else can use these clothes and at the same time, I am helping my customers keep up with the latest fashions," said Goldstein, who has run the store for 28 years. Lavene's has been in business in Springfield for 116 years.

Other businesses and companies that have partnered with Big Brothers Big Sisters for clothing drives are American Saw Mfg. in East Longmeadow, Olympic Manufacturing in Westfield and Agawam, and Riverdale Gardens Rehabilitation and Nursing Center in West Springfield.

The non-profit organization makes it easy to organize a business clothing drive by furnishing posters for bulletin boards and payroll stuffers that are enclosed in paycheck envelopes.

"When companies learn that we can help them inform their employees about the donation opportunity, and that we can take care of the details, they find it very easy to take part in a service to the community," said BBBS public relations director, Charles Bennett.

#### Trucks In The Neighborhood

According to Richard Torres, Big Brothers Big Sisters operations manager, a fleet of five trucks are constantly servicing residents and businesses in Hampden County. People can call the operations center in Springfield, find out what day a truck will be in their neighborhood, and schedule a free pick-up.

Torres explained, "They don't have to be at home, but they should call 732-7111 so that an operations person can check the calendar and see when we will have a truck route in their town. Then homeowners can clean out their closets, for example, and leave the donated items in a plastic bag on their front porch or steps the day that our trucks will be in town."

"It is important that they label the bags 'for Big Brothers Big Sisters' so that we will not take anything else by mistake," he said. "We will leave behind a tax receipt and information on how to volunteer to be a Big Brother or Sister."

"Since there is a waiting list of needy children, the more our message gets out that we need more Big Brothers and Big Sisters, the more volunteer mentors we can attract," said Bennett.

#### Resold Or Recycled

The clothing and other items collected are re-sold to the Savers thrift store in the Springfield Plaza or recycled. If the goods are considered un-



ARNOLD GOLDSTEIN of Agawam (right), who owns Lavene's men's fashions in downtown Springfield, hands suits to Richard Torres of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Hampden County.

suitable for resale in North America, they are sold to material wholesalers who convert it to rags or other uses. Some material is sent to third-world countries. Nothing is wasted or goes into landfills according to Torres. The pick-up service is free and the material may be tax deductible.

Funds raised by the collection service are used to hire more counselors, case workers, and other program support services.

For more information on business clothing drives, call Charles Bennett at 732-6216. To schedule a pick-up of donated items, call 732-7111.

### Happy Birthday!



MAJORIE WARD, who is a resident of Heritage Hall's North Building, celebrated her 100th birthday on Monday, March 2nd. Congratulations, Marjorie! Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

*Check our classified ads each week for the best in local goods & services.*

## PARTHENON

## Pizzeria Restaurant

<p><b>Monday Thru Thursday</b></p> <p>Chicken Milanese . . . . . \$9.95              Scrod Bella Vista . . . . . \$9.95              Steak Fra Diavolo . . . . . \$9.95</p> <p><b>Our Family Cooks For Your Family</b>  <b>Daily Lunch &amp; Dinner Specials</b>  <b>Fine American/Italian Cuisine</b>              (Beer, Wine, &amp; Cordials Available)</p> <p>835 Suffield St. (Rte. 75), Agawam              Across From Geissler's Supermarket              Next To Cumberland Farms</p> <p>All Major Credit Cards Accepted    <b>For Take-Out Call</b>              Open Daily 11 A.M. - 10 P.M.    <b>786-7941</b></p>	<p>Monday, Wednesday, &amp; Thursday "Specials"</p> <p><b>Buy 2 Any Size Pizzas, Get 1 Free</b>  <b>Buy 2 Grinders, Get 1 Free</b></p> <p><small>(Not In Conjunction With Any Other Coupons)              Must Present Coupon — Expires 5/28/98</small></p> <hr/> <p><b>"Super" Tuesdays</b></p> <p><b>Half-Price Pizza</b>  <b>Buy 1, Get 2nd At Half Price</b></p> <p><small>(Not In Conjunction With Any Other Coupons)              Must Present Coupon — Expires 5/26/98</small></p>
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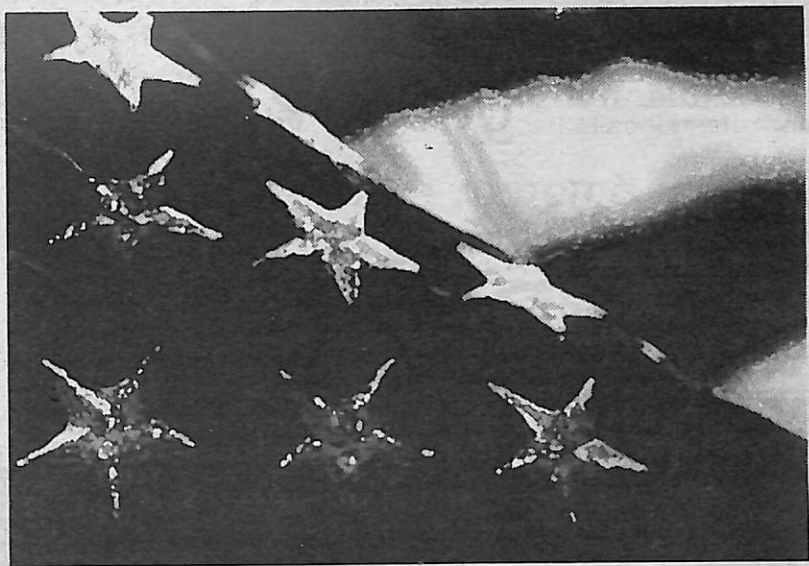
## A Medley Of Melodies At Heritage Hall...



IN LEFT PHOTO: Sam Fern picks his banjo during the Mardi Gras dinner at Heritage Hall's South Building. IN CENTER PHOTO: Ron "The One-Man Band" Wozniak entertains on his accordion at Heritage Hall West. IN RIGHT PHOTO: Tom Griffin with mike in hand at Heritage Hall East. Advertiser

News photos by Jack Devine.

*All the hometown news with us — AAN!!!*



### A new place of honor for our Veterans

Colonial Forastiere Funeral Home of Agawam welcomes the development of the city's new Veteran's Cemetery. With construction underway, we're looking forward to opening ceremonies on Memorial Day, 2000. It's sure to be a day filled with deep joy, heartfelt emotion and great celebration!

As the funeral home located closest to the new cemetery, Colonial Forastiere fully supports this eternal tribute and honor to our Veterans.

And in special consideration of its opening, we will respectfully hold the cremains of Veterans in safe storage for any families who wish to have them laid to rest there.

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## Agawam Lions Club's

Annual

## Corned Beef And Cabbage Dinner

**Wednesday, March 18th**



**Agawam Middle  
School**

**5:00 To 7:00 P.M.**

**Adults - \$6.50  
Children - \$3.50**

**Tickets May Be Purchased From Any Member  
Of The Agawam Lions Or At The Door.**



## Babysitting Safety Course To Be Offered At Mercy Hospital

Girls and boys ages 11 to 13 can become better babysitters by enrolling in a "Safe Sitter" class, sponsored by the Family Life Center at Mercy Hospital. The two-part program will take place March 28th and April 4th, 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., in the Women's Pavilion at Mercy Hospital, 299 Carew Street, Springfield.

The program provides participants with information on situations they may encounter while babysitting. Students receive hands-on practice in basic lifesaving techniques, preparing them to act in a crisis. They learn safety and security precautions, such as what to do if a stranger comes to the door and when and how to call for help.

Basic child care skills include diapering and feeding are covered, along with information on child development and age-appropriate activities. Instruction on the business aspects of babysitting is also provided.

To successfully complete the "Safe Sitter" program, students must pass both written and practical tests which demonstrate that they have mastered the information and have the necessary skills to respond in an emergency.

A \$30 fee covers the two-day course. Class size is limited and advance registration is required.

For more information and to register, call the Family Life Center's Parenting Education Department, (413) 748-7295.

## Agawam Junior Women's Club To Meet March 17th

The next meeting of the Agawam Junior Women's Club will be held on Tuesday, March 17th, at 7:30 p.m. at the Captain Charles Leonard House, Main Street, Agawam.

The program for the evening will be a visit from this year's AFS students.

## Agawam Lions Slate Corned Beef/Cabbage Dinner For March 18th

Preparations are now under way for the Agawam Lions' annual Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner. This year's dinner will be held at the Agawam Middle School on Wednesday, March 18th, from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. Tickets are \$6.50 for adults and \$3.50 for children.

Lions are people who volunteer their time to humanitarian causes in the local and world communities. By conducting service projects and raising funds, Lions strive to help those in need, wherever need exists.

The Agawam Lions Club is an all-volunteer, charitable organization, which through the efforts of its 100-plus members, has been able to support many community projects throughout the year.

All proceeds will be earmarked for these projects.

Only community support can help to make this event a success so the Lions can continue to support important Agawam projects such as Camp Rainbow, the Drug and Alcohol Abuse Program, the Agawam High School scholarships, and more.

In addition, Lions participate in service activities emphasizing diabetes awareness; eye research; work with the physically and mentally



BOB CAMPBELL (Agawam Lions First Vice-President) and BOB LOOMIS (Lions Club President) are gearing up for the annual Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

impaired; environmental issues; and community welfare.

Tickets may be purchased from any member of the Agawam Lions or at the door.

## Agawam Lioness Club Announces Ziti And Meatball Supper For Thursday, April 2nd

The Agawam Lioness Ziti and Meatball Supper will be held on Thursday, April 2nd from 5:00-7:00 p.m. This event is a fundraiser for the club, and will be open to the public.

It will be held at the Agawam Lions Den on The Big E grounds in West Springfield. Tickets will be \$5 for adults and \$2.50 for children 12 years of age

and under, and can be purchased from any member of the Lioness Club or can be purchased at the door.

Chairperson for this event is Alice Olsen and the following are members of her committee: Terry Angotti, Rose Keiffer, Rosemary Maniscalco, and Mary Roy.

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## Agawam Melody Band Performs For "First Friday" Series...



THE AGAWAM MELODY BAND (in photos above and at right) performed a concert at the Senior Center last Friday evening. Sponsored by the Agawam Cultural Council and supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, the performance was the latest presentation in the Agawam Cultural Council's ongoing "First Friday" series. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.



## Agawam Women's Club To Hold Attic Treasures And Craft Sale

The Agawam Women's Club will host an Attic Treasures and Craft Sale to be held March 21st from 9:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m. at the First Baptist Church (corner of Elm and Main Streets), Agawam.

This is a great opportunity for you to sell your attic treasures or crafts, shop for Easter, birthdays, something special for your home. Enjoy lunch, a snack, and beverage, too.

The object of the Agawam Women's Club is mutual helpfulness, the advancement of public

welfare and the promotion of civic and cultural interests.

The club's next monthly meeting will be held on March 23rd at 6:30 p.m. in the Captain Charles Leonard House at 663 Main Street. The evening's program will be "International Night." Introduction will be given by Mrs. Alice Collins. The Executive Board is in charge of hospitality.

For further information concerning the craft fair or club meetings, please call 786-1603 or 786-3091.

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Offer is limited to one plant per family, please. It's one small step toward keeping the planet green, and your home beautiful.

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Feeding Hills Center  
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## Agawam "Senior Games" Activities

### ASGA Is Busy On April 4th!

The Agawam Senior Games Athletes are busy planning an Easter Sale, combined with a Tag Sale, Bake Sale, and a Bottle and Can return on April 4th.

The athletes are asking everyone to save their returnable bottles and cans, and deposit them in the barrel in the lobby of the Senior Center.

On April 4th, while conducting their sales, they will also make runs to the store to turn in the cans and bottles that their friends have donated to them.

They hope to make these events successful and are asking for your help. What a busy time they all have ahead of them. If anyone has cans and bottles to donate and can't get them to the Senior Center, please call Vi Presz at 786-3164, and she will see that they are picked up.

They are also looking for tag sale items and will be happy to pick them up. Hope to see you all at the sale!

## Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner At American Legion

The American Legion Post 185 on Springfield Street, Agawam, will be hosting a Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner on Sunday, March 22nd, from 3:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Tickets will be available at the door. The cost is \$6 for adults, and \$3 for children. Dinner will be prepared by Chef Jimmy O'Balboni.

Come watch the Holyoke St. Patrick's Day Parade and then enjoy a great Irish dinner. All proceeds will benefit American Legion baseball.

This is a great way to celebrate St. Patrick's Day and support the American Legion baseball team at Post 185.

*Why not surprise your loved ones with a "Happy Birthday" ad? They cost only \$30, so bring in yours today...*

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# Friday Bingo

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W.T.A. 7:00 P.M.

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Additional Parking—  
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## CPR Classes To Be Offered By Boy Scout Troop 207

Boy Scout Troop 207, sponsored by the West Springfield American Legion Post 207, will be offering American Heart Association CPR classes on Saturday, April 18th.

From 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., there will be a class for full CPR certification, and from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m., a recertification class will be held (for AHA only; must include copy of current card).

The cost is \$40 per class, and make checks payable to "Boy Scout Troop 207." Please mail your check with your name, address, and home phone number to the West Springfield American Legion Post 207, 83 Park Street, West Springfield, MA 01089.

There is a non-refundable fee of \$10 if a student cancels less than one week before class. The registration deadline is April 4th.

## Agawam Women's Club To Hold Attic Treasures & Craft Fair

An Attic Treasures And Craft Fair will be presented by the Agawam Women's Club on March 21st from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Agawam Baptist Church on Main Street.

Vendors interested in renting a space, please call 786-3091 for further information.

A snack bar will be available for lunch as well as sweets, coffee, tea, and soda.

Come and enjoy part of your day with us, and help support our community projects such as the High School Scholarship Fund, Heritage Hall Nursing Home, Holyoke Soldiers' Home, and needy families in the area.

Meetings are held every fourth Monday, September through March, 7:30 p.m. in the Captain Charles Leonard House, Main Street.

Guests are always welcome.

## Community Grange Plans Breakfast For Sunday, March 15th

Community Grange No. 382 of Feeding Hills will hold a French Toast Breakfast on Sunday, March 15th from 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon at the Grange Hall. The hall is located at 47 North West Street in Feeding Hills.

The menu will consist of French toast, sausage, juice, coffee, tea, or milk. The cost is \$3 for adults and \$1.50 for children under 12. Reservations can be made by calling 789-2061.

Come to a great home-cooked breakfast. The public is invited to attend.

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789-1131

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## Ag. Senior Center's Weekly Lunch Menu

**Monday, March 16th:** Vegetable lasagna, broccoli salad, juice, banana.

**Tuesday, March 17th:** "Mulligan's stew" (beef, onions, potatoes, carrots, and celery), tossed salad, biscuit, jello, and fruit.

**Wednesday, March 18th:** Liver and onions, baked potato, pickled beets, rye bread, ice cream.

**Thursday, March 19th:** Beef barley soup, corned beef on rye, potato puffs, pickle, brownie.

**Friday, March 20th:** Seafood salad on a roll, cole slaw, baked beans, apricots.

## ADVERTISER NEWS

## Springfield Turnverein

Of Agawam

176 Garden Street, Feeding Hills:

**Fish Dinners —  
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Serving 5:30 To 8:00 P.M.

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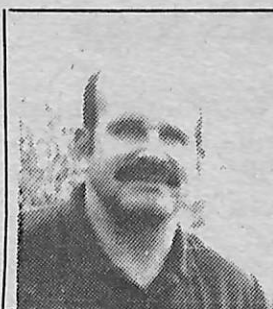
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# Church News



## Reflections...

submitted by  
**Rev. Peter Monahan**  
Pastor of the Church  
of the Apostles,  
Suffield, CT  
(860) 666-4444 or  
(413) 796-8735

## We Don't Have To Go Through Crises Alone

The next worst thing to having a personal crisis is the feeling which usually accompanies it; that either nobody cares about our problems or nobody understands what we're going through, or both.

The stress of enduring a crisis alone is often-times at least as bad as the crisis itself, if not worse. Some people are more naturally gifted at seeking out comfort during difficult times than others.

Broadly speaking, women and teenagers are better at this than men. Since stress wears a body down, it ought not to surprise us that, statistically speaking, women live longer than men.

Nobody should ever go through a crisis alone. Nobody has to go through a crisis alone. That is because whether we have lots of friends or we tend to be loners, God always knows and cares about what happens to us. When God revealed Himself to Moses, it was during a time a crisis for Moses as well as the people of Israel in general.

God knew all about it. **Then the Lord said, "I have observed the misery of my people who are in Egypt; I have heard their cry on account of their taskmasters. Indeed, I know their sufferings."**

Regardless of whether we realize it or not, God is very aware of everything that happens to us. God knows, and God cares.

It is a great comfort to us when we know we are not alone during difficult times. The Hallmark Card Company was ribbed a bit in the press for issuing a line of condolence cards, but they most likely identified a need among us.

Better than not being alone, however, is having a friend who can help us in our time of need. God can be that friend for each of us. God wants to be that friend to each of us.

To some, it may seem inappropriate for a person to turn to God for help during bad times when that person has ignored God during good times, but that doesn't seem to be the way God sees things. Even though the people of Israel had pretty much lost their faith and contact with God while they lived in Egypt, God held no grudges.

**"I have come down to deliver them from the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey."** It is not surprising that there are few if any true atheists in foxholes; it is more wonderful still to find God right in there with them.

Life in this world can be challenging, to say the least. It's not a bed of roses, for anybody. **For He makes His sun rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous.**

The difference is that those who are righteous, who are in a right relationship with God, know that God is in control and watches over us. **No testing has overtaken you that is not common to everyone. God is faithful, and He will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the way of testing He will also provide the way out so that you may be able to endure it.**

That should be a great incentive for anyone to want God in their lives! The Bible implores us, **cast all your anxiety on Him, because He cares for you.**

Then, like Job, we can confidently say, **"For I know that my Redeemer lives, in my flesh I shall see God, whom I shall see on my side."**

## Weekly Calendar From Ag. Congregational

On Friday, March 13th, at 7:00 p.m., at Agawam Congregational Church, there will be a choral performance by the Defiance College Choral Singers from Ohio. Rev. Curt D. Fuller is a 1970 graduate of Defiance College.

A free will offering will be taken to defray the choir's travel expenses. Join us for this special evening of fellowship and music.

This Sunday, March 15th, is the third Sunday in Lent. The Service of Worship continues at 10:30 a.m. at Agawam Congregational Church, 745 Main Street, Agawam.

Rev. Fuller's Sermon will be "God, I Am Seeking You," taken from text: Psalm 63:1. His Children's Message will be "Hide & Seek."

This is also Youth Sunday for the Junior High youth of the church. They will be leading and participating in the Worship Service.

A Youth Communion Service for grades seven through 12 will be held at 9:00 a.m. downstairs in the Worship Chapel.

The Adult Education Class meets each Sunday at 9:00 a.m. in the Friendship Room. This Sunday will be led by Neil Ellsworth, Christian Education Committee member.

All are welcome to attend.

The Open Pantry item for this Sunday is canned juice. Items collected will be donated to the Agawam/West Springfield Open Pantry.

A reminder that the Loaves & Fishes program is Monday, March 16th. Meet at the church at 4:00 p.m. to carpool to the Springfield kitchen. Anyone interested in helping out is welcome.

"A Way Through Lent," a joint Lenten Adult Education Series with the First Baptist Church of Agawam, begins this Sunday.

The first two sessions are on March 15th and 22nd at 7:00 p.m. at the Agawam Congregational Church. The final two sessions, March 29th and April 5th, will be held at the First Baptist Church of Agawam.

The series will be led by Rev. Fuller, Rev. Barnes, and Dan Pender, Youth/Christian Education Director. For more information concerning the series, call the church office.

The Youth Committee and Family Outreach is sponsoring a "Hockey Night" on Friday, March 20th. The cost is only \$6 a ticket and includes parking with your ticket stub.

If you need to carpool, meet at the church parking lot at 6:45 p.m. for the 7:30 p.m. game (Falcons vs. Hartford Wolfpack). Interested? Call the church office.

Mark your calendars today! The April One-Day Vacation Bible Camp is Wednesday, April 22nd, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon.

## "Spring Fair" At Mittineague United Methodist Church

The Mittineague United Methodist Church, 800 Amostown Road, West Springfield (across from Fausey School) will host a "Spring Fair" on Saturday, March 28th from 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

Featured will be breakfast with the Easter Bunny from 8:00-11:00 a.m. (\$4 for adults, \$2 for children), a potato bar with all the "fixin's" (11:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m.), homemade baked goods, handmade knit sweaters, handcrafted items, apparel, an "Attic Treasures" table, and a Holiday Gifts table.

For more information, call the church office, 788-0304.

## Lenten Message From Agawam United Methodist

The Agawam United Methodist Church greets you warmly during this season of Lent. In this season, we are encouraged by the journey of Christ, in whose life there are parallels to our human experiences as we live our lives.

Apart from the wilderness temptations, there are other moving experiences that are like what many people go through, day by day or year by year.

One of these experiences is loneliness. On two specific occasions, Jesus made the following known: 1) in the garden while he was praying, as he contemplated the full meaning and significance of going to the cross, he said, "Take this cup from me," and 2) while on the cross, Jesus said, "My, God, my God, why has Thou forsaken me?"

Moments of loneliness can be very painful, and intensely painful for some people. It is often from this platform that most persons (who have done so) jump off to take their lives.

The question that the world of professionals ask is, "How can we counteract this?"

We have spoken of depression in its various forms, and its varying degrees of intensity. We have prescribed all types of medications, but still the malady goes on and sometimes becomes so furious in its rage that it leaves in its wake a most visible trail of suffering.

We ought to take a second look and, if we have never before, a first look at Jesus. In the first situation, he says, "Not my will but Thy will be done." In the second, a climax is reached as he says, "Father into Thy hands, I commend my spirit!"

In short, the antidote to this loneliness was a deep, sharp sense of the nearness and presence of God, even in the most excruciating situation.

We invite you to visit us at the Agawam United Methodist Church, 459 Mill Street. As we meet for worship during this season, we shall give attention to the subject of loneliness in the lives of individuals and the part that others can play, especially family and relatives in fostering this sense of the nearness and acceptance of God.

Sunday School and Worship begin at 9:30 a.m. The social time is at 10:50 a.m.

A Disciple Bible Study will take place on Wednesday, March 18th, at 7:00 p.m.

## Church Supper Slated For March 14th At Valley Comm. Church

The Supper Committee at Valley Community Church is busy preparing for its next monthly Chicken Supper, which will be held this Saturday, March 14th.

Their menu will consist of half a baked chicken, mashed potatoes, stuffing, gravy, two hot vegetables, tossed salad, olives, pickles, cranberry sauce, rolls with butter, and a beverage. You also get your choice from the wide variety of tempting and delicious desserts. The cost is only \$7 for adults and \$3.50 for children.

Continuous servings are available from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. Reservations can be made (and are strongly suggested) by calling Shirley at 786-2576 or Jeff at 789-2552.

The church is located at 152 South Westfield Street, Feeding Hills.

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## Church News - continued...

## Divorce Recovery Prog. To Be Presented At First Baptist

The Caring Connection of the First Baptist Church will present a program dealing with divorce recovery. There will be a seminar weekend on April 3rd and 4th, with eight weekly Tuesday evening follow-up sessions through May 26th.

The seminar fee of \$75 includes the program workbook, continental breakfast, lunch, snacks, and the eight-week follow-up series. The scheduled program for the weekend starts with registration at 6:30 p.m. on Friday, April 3rd.

Five sessions will be included in the weekend series: session 1 - "The Stages of Divorce and Recovery"; session 2 - "Divorce and Remarriage: A Biblical Perspective"; session 3 - "Single Sexuality"; session 4 - "Kids in the Middle"; and session 5 - "Bitterness and Forgiveness."

There will be informative lectures by professionals, discussion groups, opportunities for sharing, support groups, and available counseling services. To register for this program or for further information, contact the church office, tel. 786-7300.

\*\*\*

This Sunday morning, March 15th, at the 9:30 a.m. worship service, "Of Figs and Other Fruits" will be the topic of Pastor Richard Barnes' sermon. Scriptural references will be from Luke 13.

Joseph Modzelewski will lead the responsive reading. Greeters for the morning will include Nancy Strole and Donna Modzelewski.

\*\*\*

The newly-renewed "Nuts & Bolts" class, a group studying Baptist beliefs and practices, will meet following a brief coffee hour after worship. This group is led by Pastor Barnes.

Classes for all ages are available, and nursery care is offered every week for infants and toddlers.

\*\*\*

At 7:00 p.m. this Sunday evening, March 15th, the first in a joint series of Lenten study groups will begin at the Agawam Congregational Church.

The study, entitled "A Way Through Lent-Come Share The Journey," will be led by Rev. Curt Fuller, Rev. Rick Barnes, and Dan Pender. Child care will be provided.

\*\*\*

On our calendar this week:

**Monday, March 16th:** 7:30 p.m., Word Search Bible Study; 7:30 p.m., Social Action Committee.

**Tuesday, March 17th:** 1:15 p.m., EZ Does It Aerobics Class; 6:30 p.m., Mr. & Mrs. Club Dinner; 7:00 p.m., Junior Youth Group.

**Wednesday, March 18th:** 7:15 a.m., Mid-Week Prayer Time; 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Trading Post Open.

**Thursday, March 19th:** 10:00 a.m., Bell Ringers Rehearsal; 1:15 p.m., EZ Does It Aerobics Class; 7:30 p.m., Choir Rehearsal; 7:30 p.m., Bylaws Committee.

**Friday, March 20th:** Youth and Men's Group to attend Springfield Falcons hockey game.

\*\*\*

Caring Connection contacts for the month of March are Hope Paradysz (786-9657) and Sharon Hodge (562-5762).

*Our deadline is each Tuesday at 12:00 noon. Thank you for your cooperation...*

## Events & Activities At Valley Comm. Church

The third Sunday of Lent will be observed during the Sunday Worship Service at Valley Community Church. Pastor Steve Dennehy will take his message from the gospel of Luke 13:1-9 which describes the fig tree which bears no fruit. We warmly welcome everyone in the community to attend the 9:30 a.m. service.

**Children's Church** begins at 10:00 a.m. in Dunn Hall. These church children are remarkable as they sit through morning worship, anxiously waiting to get to their own worship service. When the time does come, no adult dare get in their way for fear of being trampled as they head for Dunn Hall.

Following the worship service, all are invited to come to Dunn Hall for **Coffee and Fellowship**. This Sunday will be our Birthday Celebration, as we honor all church members and friends who are celebrating birthdays during the month of March.

**Church School** begins at 11:00 a.m. for all ages. Our children will continue in their various classes as they follow the Whole People of God curriculum. The adult class will begin a study on the book of Daniel as they begin to understand just who Daniel was.

Nursery care is available for all infants and toddlers throughout the morning.

\*\*\*

The **Parish Life Committee** is scheduled to meet on Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. All members of the committee, as well as anyone who is interested in the family life of the church, are invited to attend.

\*\*\*

Both **Junior Choir and Senior Choir** will meet on Wednesday evening. Songs of praise will be heard throughout the church hall when the Junior Choir meets at 6:15 p.m. The Senior Choir will pick up both the pace and the volume when they gather at 7:00 p.m.

\*\*\*

Cub Scout Troop 78, Den 3, will meet at the church on Thursday evening from 6:15 until 7:45 p.m.

\*\*\*

Valley Community Church welcomes all in the community who are searching for a church home. For more information, please call the church office at 786-2445, Monday through Thursday from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon.

The church is located "high on a hilltop" at 152 South Westfield Street, Feeding Hills.

## News & Notes From St. John's Church Of Agawam

### TEEN-ENCOUNTER

The Teen Encounter Leadership Program will take place at St. John's on March 21st and 29th. If any high school student would like an application for this program, please contact Sr. Fran Gloster at 786-8105.

The deadline to apply is March 15th.

### LENTEN SCHEDULE

**Daily Mass:** 8:30 a.m., 7:00 p.m. **Stations of the Cross:** Wednesdays, 9:00 a.m.; Fridays, 4:00 p.m. (children), and 7:30 p.m.

### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

#### Class Times

Saturday, Grades 1-4, 9:00-10:00 a.m.; Monday, Grades 5-7, 6:15-7:15 p.m.; Monday, Grades 8-10, 7:30-8:30 p.m.

### CONFIRMATION STUDENTS

This Sunday night at 6:30 p.m. and each Sunday night through March.

## Ham & Bean Supper At 1st Baptist Church

The First Baptist Church of Agawam, corner of Main & Elm Sts., invites you to a family-style Ham & Bean Supper on Saturday, March 14th.

The supper will include baked ham, homemade baked beans, potato salad, coleslaw, rolls, coffee, tea or milk, and assorted homemade pies.

Servings will be at 4:45 p.m. or 6:15 p.m. Cost for adults is \$7, and \$3 for children under 10.

For reservations, please call 786-8609, 786-8209, or 525-2818.

If you are unable to honor your reservation, please call to cancel.

## ADVERTISER NEWS

## Passion Play Slated For April 3rd-5th At Bethany Assembly

The Bethany Choir and Orchestra with the Bethany Drama Department will present the 1998 Passion Play entitled "He Loved Me With a Cross" Palm Sunday weekend April 3rd, 4th, and 5th at Bethany Assembly in Agawam.

This year's presentation will again portray the events of the Passion week, from the triumphal entry into Jerusalem amidst the cries of "Hosanna," the Last Supper, the betrayal, and trial before Pilate, the Crucifixion, and the Resurrection from the tomb.

The dynamic music, the stunning theatrical set, and the moving drama will bring alive the truth of the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

There is no admission charge, and there will be signing for the deaf. Presentations are Friday, April 3rd at 7:00 p.m.; Saturday, April 4th at 6:00 p.m.; and Palm Sunday, April 5th at 3:00 and 6:00 p.m.

Bethany Assembly is located at the corner of Route 57 at Main Street in Agawam. For more information, call the church office at (413) 789-2930.

*"Church News" is another reason why you turn our pages ... AAN!!!*

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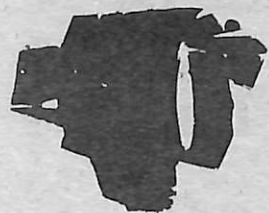
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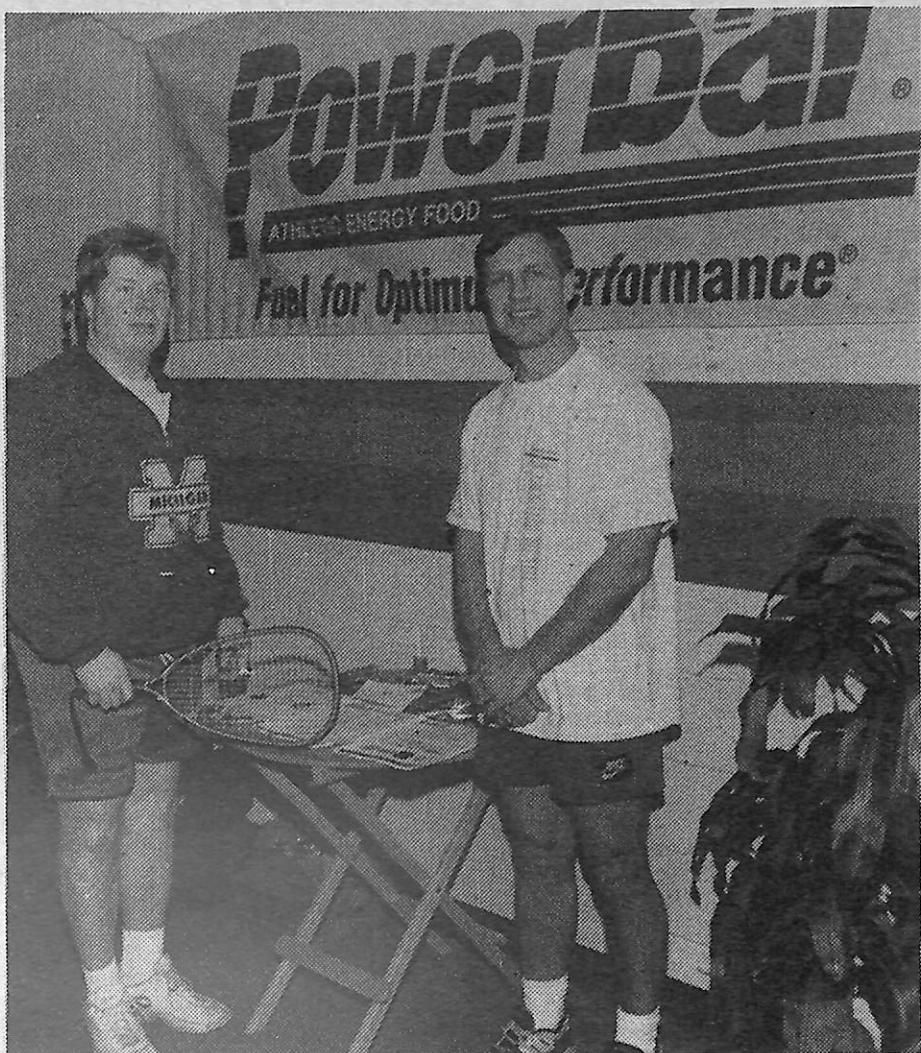
245 Springfield Street  
Agawam





## Spotlight On Business

### Fitness First Helps Children's Miracle Network...



KURT WELKER (right), owner of Fitness First, and Kevin Gaffney during the 12th Annual Children's Miracle Network Racquetball Tournament and Aerob-A-Thon (March 6th-8th). Advertiser

News photo by Jack Devine.



HELPING THE CHILDREN'S MIRACLE NETWORK: standing - Ely Dunn, Kurt Welker, and Paula Welker; seated - Steven Tencati and John Lewis. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

### Alecia Shea Joins LANDRY, LYONS & WHYTE In F. Hills

Laurence D. Landry of LANDRY, LYONS, & WHYTE Co./Better Homes and Gardens is pleased to announce that Alecia Shea has joined the firm's Feeding Hills office as a Sales Associate.

She has been active in the real estate business since 1992 and, being licensed in both Massachusetts and Connecticut, Alecia is active with homebuyers and sellers in both states.

She and her husband live in Suffield, CT in their 1855 Greek Revival home.

LANDRY, LYONS & WHYTE Co./Better Homes and Gardens is the largest real estate firm in the Pioneer Valley and has over 200 salespeople and 11 offices with locations in East Longmeadow, Springfield, Sixteen Acres, Palmer, Chicopee, Feeding Hills, South Hadley, Longmeadow, West Springfield, Westfield, and Wilbraham.

For further information, please contact Laurence D. Landry at (413) 782-6000.



SOME OF THE PARTICIPANTS in the Aerob-A-Thon that was held at Fitness First on Saturday, March 7th. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

*Best local news...*

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Grade "A" Chickens Whole	69¢ Lb.
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Fresh Ground Chuck 5 Lbs. Or More	\$1.69 Lb.
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Deutsmacher Polish Loaf	\$2.39 Lb.
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Crisp Aire McIntosh Apples (3 Lb. Bag)	\$1.29

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Hood 1% Low Fat Milk (Gallon)	\$2.19
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*Spotlight On Business - continued...*

## Sports, Food, & Fun At Goodfellaz Grill & Brew



SINCE OPENING GOODFELLAZ GRILL & BREW on January 1st in the Galleria Shops, North Westfield Street, Feeding Hills, owner Richie Girard, the former West Side High hockey coach who now lives in Feeding Hills, has totally recreated the facility into a sports bar that includes 10 TV's and an upstairs room with a full bar (with four of those TV's) for private functions for up to 45 people. The kitchen is operating at full capacity seven days a week from 11:00 a.m. until 10:00 p.m., and salads, appetizers, soups, burgers, deli sandwiches, hot dogs, and everyday favorites like grilled ham and cheese, reubens, and open face turkey and roast beef sandwiches are on the menu. Goodfellaz serves nine beers from the tap, including popular micro brews. There are six huge logos hand-painted on the walls by local designer Sonia Conlin of the Bruins, Celtics, Red Sox, Patriots, UMass, and Springfield Falcons. Weekends include light entertainment like Karaoke, comedy shows, and popular one-man guitarist "Just George." In top photo, Barry Szyhojko and Richie Girard show-off the Boston Bruins logo; in photo left, Richie Girard and Barry Szyhojko pose behind the bar. For the locals who haven't stopped into this place yet, you won't be disappointed, especially on Game Day (which is every day of the week at Goodfellaz). Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.

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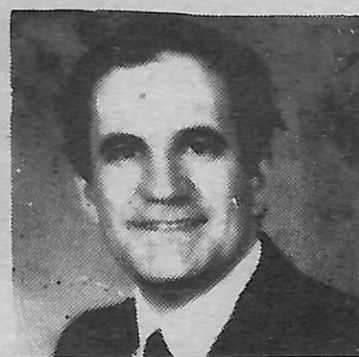
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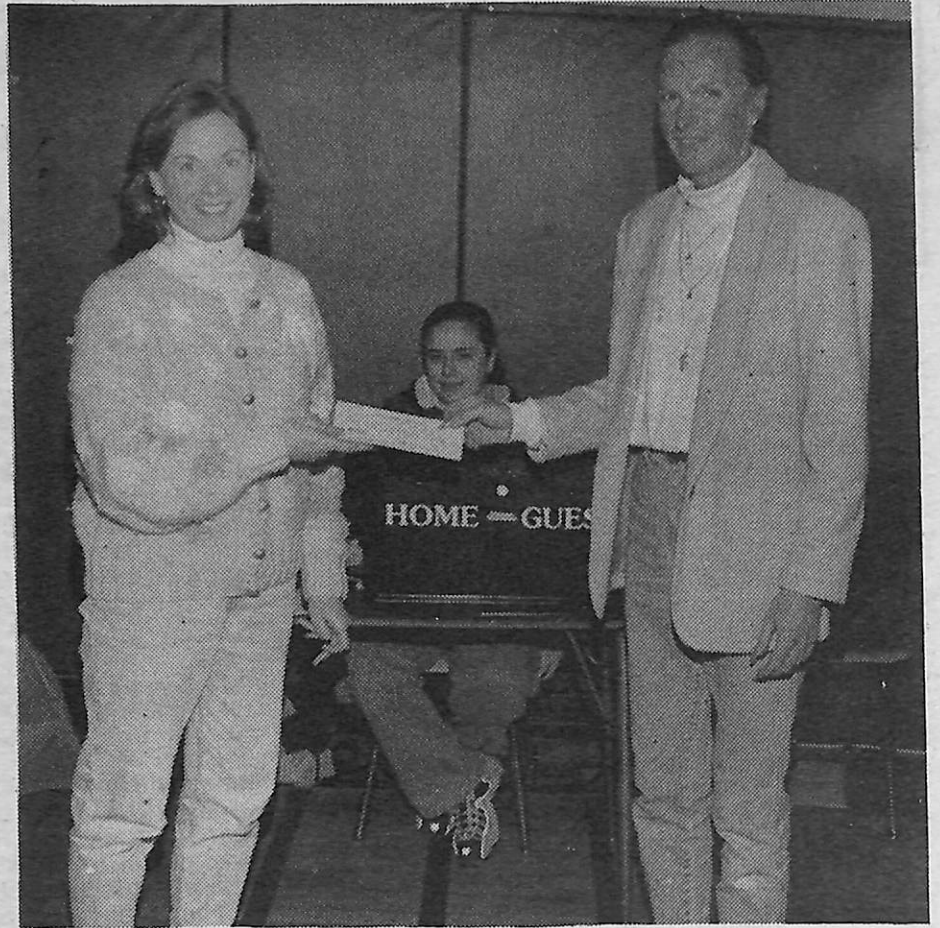
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**786-0555**



*Spotlight On Business - continued...*

**STEVE ADAMSKI**, commissioner of the Agawam Piranhas Swim Team, with **Joann McGeoghan**, local representative of Berkshire Power. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



**MARY M. KELLER**, director of the Agawam Parks and Recreation Department; **Jen Burke**, scorekeeper; and **Joann McGeoghan** of Berkshire Power. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

## Berkshire Power Donates To In-Town Sports Programs

The Agawam Parks and Recreation Department would like to thank Berkshire Power for their generous donations to the town's in-town basketball league and youth swim team.

Recently, Berkshire Power was the first sponsor of the Piranhas Swim Team. The swim team competes in a winter and a summer league in the Pioneer Valley and draws up to 100 children ages five through 18 each season.

The donation helps the team with their league expenses and end of the season championships.

Berkshire Power also donated two brand new electric scoreboards to the Agawam Youth Basketball League. The scoreboards were a welcome addition to the league. They are being used at the Middle School and the High School for Boys' and Girls' Grades 5 & 6, Boys' and Girls' Grades 7 & 8, and Boys' Grades 9-12 divisions. The

in-town basketball program accommodates 160 children in the Instructional Program and 500 children in the Youth Program, grades 3-12.

The Recreation Department greatly appreciates Berkshire Power's generosity and support for our youth sports programs. We would not have been able to fund some of these projects without their help. On behalf of all our participants, please accept our sincerest thanks.

# Dr. Michael Haynes

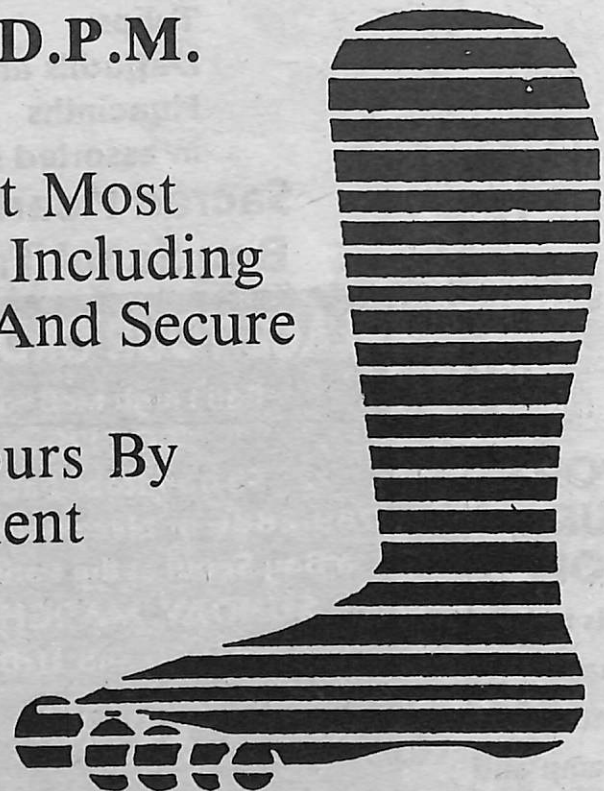
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## Spotlight On Business - continued...

Legal  
Memo

by  
Alan J. Ferrigno, Esq.  
546 Springfield St., F.H.  
(413) 786-9454

Negligence:  
Slip And Fall - Bathroom

On January 3, 1993, the plaintiff fell in the bathroom of a restaurant. As the plaintiff fell, he allegedly reached to his left to grab a sink and separated his left shoulder. At the time of the accident, he was a 31 year-old manual laborer working at a metal fabrications plant.

After the fall, the plaintiff claimed that he noticed that the back of his clothing was wet and that there was a soapy substance on the floor with a perfume-type odor. The defense alleged that its mopping and cleaning techniques resulted in instantaneous drying of the floor and that the floor was dry at the time of the fall.

During trial, there were apparent inconsistencies between the interrogatory answers provided by corporate headquarters and the testimony of the restaurant manager. For example, corporate headquarters asserted that the floor had not been mopped prior to the accident, although the restaurant manager agreed that the floor had been mopped, pursuant to normal routine, within one to two hours prior to the fall.

Additionally, the defense asserted that if the plaintiff had fallen, he did so in another location of the bathroom and that he was too heavy to fall in that particular smaller location.

During jury deliberations, the jury asked three questions of the trial judge. Two of those questions included how to reduce future damages to present value, and whether or not court costs could be assessed against the defendant. Nevertheless, the defendant refused to make any offer before the jury returned its verdict.

The plaintiff projected lost earning capacity of \$10,000 to \$12,000 per year. The plaintiff's demand was \$150,000 and defendant's offered zero.

The jury returned an award of \$163,150.00.  
**Attorney Alan L. Ferrigno maintains an office at 546 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills, Massachusetts.**

## Pam Savioli

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## Home-Selling Tips...

If you're thinking of selling your home, keep in mind that buyers appreciate a clean look in the homes they view. You can increase the value of your home and decrease the time it takes to sell by making a few simple improvements.

Aroma is the first thing prospective buyers notice when they step inside a home. To eliminate odors, steam clean your carpet and wash walls

and floors with household cleaners and disinfectants. Keep your home smelling fresh by burning candles or potpourri, boiling a pot of cinnamon sticks, or putting a dab of vanilla on cold light bulbs before turning them on.

Nothing makes a home look newer faster than painting. Painting your walls and removing outdated wallpaper may be the best interior improvements you can make. For broader appeal, paint in neutral colors such as beige, white, off-white, or gray. These colors suggest newness and cleanliness and can brighten a dull or outdated room.

If you carpet is badly worn, outdated, or stained, consider replacing it. If your carpet is heavily soiled, you may want to have it professionally cleaned. Brighten the interior of your home by cleaning your windows and opening your curtains to let light in. Clean hanging light fixtures and add the highest-wattage bulbs allowed.

**For more ideas on getting your house ready to sell, call Pam Savioli, (413) 748-7565.**

Free Seminar Sponsored By Purchasing  
Management Assoc. Of Western New England

The Purchasing Management Association of Western New England (P.M.A.W.N.E.), an affiliate of the National Association of Purchasing Management (N.A.P.M.), is hosting a free, local seminar at the Oaks Banquet facility in Agawam on Friday, March 27th from 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

The all-day seminar will cover the fundamental practices, concepts, theories, legal aspects, and negotiation requirements of today's purchasing professionals.

"This free seminar, especially designed for smaller businesses, is aimed at educating purchasers about the basics of purchasing and will help point out techniques that will make them more efficient," states Steve Powell, President of P.M.A.W.N.E.

The seminar will be led by Paul Hine, President of ProfitLink, Inc., a Southbury, CT based consulting and training firm. ProfitLink's specialty is teaching companies how to better serve their customers by realigning their business processes

in order to respond profitably and quickly to the changing marketplace.

"Paul is a valuable asset to our organization and will provide a tremendous amount of insight to every purchasing professional that attends the seminar," proclaimed Powell.

This seminar is open to members, but is primarily intended for non-member companies as a way of both introducing them to P.M.A.W.N.E. and providing them with practical, educational information they can put to immediate use on the job.

For more information about attending the seminar, contact Barbara Welch at (413) 786-9300, ext. 3219.

## EASTER PLANT SALE



Locally grown Easter plants will be available April 4th, 1998 at Sacred Heart Church in Feeding Hills or delivered by your participating Boy Scout. All Flowers will be delivered with SEMI-OPEN BUDS and in a decorative pot cover.

CHOOSE FROM:

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789-2886 or place your order with  
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after the 9:00 and 11:00 Masses

**ALSO**

**SUNDAY, APRIL 5th**  
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# For Your Health



## Your Back And Your Health

by Dr. Joseph  
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Dr. Tami Nelson  
Chiropractic Physician  
Hampden County  
Chiropractic  
850 Springfield St.  
Feeding Hills  
786-4820

## Treating Dizziness...

Recurring dizziness is often diagnosed as vertigo. Although medications are often prescribed to suppress the uneasy symptoms of this condition, treating the underlying cause is desirable.

Inner ear and circulatory problems resulting in vertigo may be produced by drugs, stress, accidents, or by merely whirling about rapidly like many of us did as children.

The primary difference between the inner ear and circulatory dizziness is, in the inner ear type, it is like the merry-go-round or twirling sensation, whereas the circulatory type becomes apparent when lying down or bending over and getting up quickly and feeling faint. It is possible to have both kinds.

Dizziness is not a disease. It is an indication that something is amiss in the delicate balance of our body. The dizzy spells are nature's warning that some disorder is interfering with the proper function of the body's organs, nerves, glands, or muscles.

All of the functions of our body are under the control of the nervous system, which is similar to a highly complex electronic system. The nervous system originates in the brain, where nerve energy is transmitted down through the spinal cord inside of our spine and branches out between the vertebrae as spinal nerves.

Occasionally the spine may twist or curve, creating a squeezing pressure so lightly that we are unaware of it except for the symptoms of dizziness.

There are various forms of treatment that may provide a degree of temporary relief, but the proper approach is to locate the CAUSE of the problem and correct it. The underlying cause of this type of condition is in many cases associated with spinal misalignments.

The correction of the problem is a gentle realignment of the vertebra of the spine to help the body heal itself.

If you suffer with dizziness, our office at 192 SHOEMAKER LANE, AGAWAM, tel. 789-1369, may provide the answer.

## Effects Of Parenthood (On The Body)

Many of you know that I recently had a beautiful baby boy. He was by no stretch a little thing, weighing in at nine pounds, 10 ounces! Now, at one month, he is well over 12 pounds.

What effect does this have on Mom and Dad's body? New babies certainly take their toll on the body, especially big ones! First of all, holding a baby in the arms creates strain on the midback and shoulder region. Gazing down at the new wonder also can cause strain on the neck muscles, which can create neck pain, stiffness, and headaches.

Not only can holding the baby and constantly lifting, changing, and feeding the baby be tiring, but also carrying a carseat and all the other baby items can have an effect, too. There seems to be a direct relationship that the smaller the baby, the more items there are to carry.

What effect does this have? Not only is the new parent sleep-deprived, but they are also physically experiencing new stresses on the body. Again, this can cause pain, numbness, achiness, stiffness, headaches, neck and midback pain, low

back pain, fatigue, and a myriad of other problems.

If you are healing from any new injury to the spine, the added strain can slow the healing process, due to constant irritation from repetitive strain to the region.

Don't be surprised if an old injury starts to create problems again. Scar tissue from an old injury is not as elastic as healthy tissue and when extra strain is placed on the region, it can cause pain.

So, what's the solution? Here are some suggestions:

1. Try to be in the best physical shape possible prior to the new baby. Pregnancy, giving birth, and taking care of a baby take a great deal of physical stamina and endurance. If you are not in good physical shape beforehand, the added stress can be overwhelming.

2. Healthy diet - eating good, nutritious foods can help keep the body strong and active.

3. Exercise regularly - even though there seems to be no extra energy or time, it is important to keep your body physically strong.

4. Stretch - keep those muscles as limber and flexible as possible. Stretch the neck, shoulders, legs, and low back daily.

5. Rest - try to rest and relax whenever an opportunity presents itself; build it into your day.

6. Finally, enjoy every moment with the new bundle of joy. We're trying to take the opportunity to do just that. Some days feel overwhelming and we're dead tired by the end of the day, but by taking care of ourselves physically and mentally, we're able to meet our baby's needs and enjoy the process, also!

Dr. Nelson maintains an office at Hampden County Chiropractic, 850 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills, 786-4820.

## Hearing Screening At Senior Center

Mercy Hospital's Weldon Mobile Hearing Center will conduct free hearing screenings and hearing aid checks at the Agawam Senior Center on Monday, March 16th at 9:00 a.m.

In addition, full diagnostic hearing tests, evaluations, fittings, sales and service of hearing aids, and assistive-listening devices, can be scheduled on a fee-for-service basis.

The hearing van's audiology equipment is operated by nationally certified audiologists from the Weldon Hearing Center at Mercy Hospital.

For a reservation, call the Agawam Senior Center at 786-0400, ext. 242.

*"For Your Health" is another reason why you turn our pages each & every week — AAN!!!*

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## For Your Health - continued...

## Managing YOUR STRESS

by Dr. Stephen Sobel  
M.S., S.M.C.



### Create Your Own Miracles...

The great boxer Sugar Ray Robinson once said, "To be a champ, you have to believe in yourself when nobody else will." That quote should be tattooed into your mind every day; it is one of life's most profound truths. This fact was dramatically illustrated to me recently.

I am a professor of management at a fairly well-known college in New England. I have taught there on a part-time basis for about 10 years. Several months ago, I received a phone call from the college president asking me to come to her office — tomorrow, if possible.

I asked her if we could speak on the phone about what she wished to discuss with me. She said, "No. It is necessary to meet in person."

At times like these, it is a natural tendency to think the worst. That's why it's so important to have faith in yourself. A few years ago, I might have yielded to the temptation to think negatively and worry: *it is probably something I did, or if she wants to see me personally, it must be serious.*

Instead, my faith in myself allowed me to say, *The most positive and important things people often want to convey are often best communicated in a one-to-one setting.* Then I forgot about it until the meeting.

As it turned out, she extended an invitation for me to deliver the commencement address before 8,000 people. This didn't happen by chance. It happened because I constantly took the risk of doing new things each semester with the same courses I taught.

I reminded myself that it was my responsibility to be the most innovative professor that I could be. I believed in my ability to find creative ways to present the material so I could reach even the most unmotivated students.

I was surprised when the president told me that I had been nominated by my students to be the commencement speaker. I never even knew that any of my students were on the commencement committee. I simply tried to be the best professor that I could be; I wasn't trying to win a popularity contest with the student body.

The lesson for me in that experience was that in any business or profession, it always takes extraordinary effort to be the best. But it's worth the effort.

When you strive to constantly improve — to be the best for yourself — opportunities always follow.



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## Food for Thought

by Nancy Dell  
Registered Dietician



### Expanding Your Culinary Horizon Is Part Of A Healthy Eating Style

What is the common theme in these five international movies: *Big Night*, *Like Water for Chocolate*, *Fried Green Tomatoes*, *Tampopo*, and *Babette's Feast*?

Food. These movies have created rich cultural feasts that appeal to the mind, as well as the stomach. Moviegoers are not only enticed with exotic dishes such as Tita's quail in rose petal sauce (*Like Water for Chocolate*), fried green tomatoes at Whistle Stop Cafe (*Fried Green Tomatoes*), Primo's timpano (*The Big Night*), Babette's (*Tampopo*), but also mesmerized with the life stories of the creators.

"Food is more than simply nutrients. Foods and food habits are often associated with ethnic beliefs, values, and customs. It is a daily affirmation of cultural identity," said Barbara Dixon, a Baton Rouge, Louisiana, registered dietitian who is an expert on African American nutrition education.

As the United States becomes more demographically diverse, so do the foods and food habits of Americans. Expanding one's culinary horizon is not only the cornerstone of a healthful eating style, but also an important step to understanding and appreciating cultural differences, according to Dixon.

A study in the *Journal of the American Dietetic*

Association showed that people who ate between 71 to 83 different foods, as opposed to a range of 37 to 58 items, during the 15-day study enjoyed diets much higher in vitamin C. Their eating patterns were also significantly lower in sugar, sodium, and saturated fat.

"By increasing the variety of foods we eat, we are more likely to get sufficient quantities of the 40 essential nutrients our bodies need. This, over a lifetime, will not only increase vitality, but may reduce our risk for many nutrition-related diseases," she said.

Also of importance, Dixon stressed that exploring a variety of foods can set the stage for an adventurous cultural expedition.

Here are some cultural tidbits about certain foods:

- Do you know why Chinese eat dumplings filled with minced meat and steamed vegetables on the first day of winter? Legend has it that the dumplings, which are in the shapes of ears, can help ward off frostbite on the ears.

- When preparing Christmas plum pudding, it is still a British superstition for each family member to take a turn stirring it clockwise (it is the same direction that the sun was assumed to rotate around the earth in ancient times). To stir counterclockwise is to ask for trouble.

- Do you know that in the Hopi (a native American group) culture, it was up to a woman to propose marriage to a man? She did this by preparing a blue cornmeal cake called "piki" and placing it on her intended's doorstep. If the piki was taken into the house, her proposal was accepted.

- Do you know that eggs cooked in garlic and chicken soup are frequently consumed by Lebanese women to help warm up their bodies? Some Lebanese believe that following childbirth, women are especially susceptible to cool drafts and showers and baths are avoided for 10 days to prevent cold air from "entering" veins and causing illnesses.

Nancy Dell, MS, is a registered dietitian in private practice in Feeding Hills and the media representative for the Massachusetts Dietetic Association.

## Providence Hospital Has Support Group For Parents Of Kids With Drug/Alcohol Problems

Providence Hospital offers a weekly support group for parents of children with drug or alcohol abuse problems. The group meets Wednesdays, 7:00-9:00 p.m., at the hospital, 1233 Main St.

The meetings provide an opportunity for parents whose children are currently involved with substance abuse, or have been in the past, to share ideas on how to deal with the problem. There is no charge for the sessions.

The substance abuse services of Providence Hospital are part of Sisters of Providence Behavioral HealthCare (SPBHC). For information on the support group, call Karen Walsh Plo, M.S.W., L.I.C.S.W., Administrator, SPBHC Outpatient Substance Abuse Services; or Bob Pisani, M.S., Coordinator, SPBHC Adolescent Intensive Day Treatment Services, (413) 493-2032.

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*For Your Health - continued...*

## Support Groups, Programs, And Courses At Noble

### SUPPORT GROUPS

**Stroke Support Group:** Wednesday, March 18th, 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. In the Bronson Rehabilitation Center Dining Room at Noble Hospital, 115 West Silver Street, Westfield.

Free of charge and open to individuals recovering from stroke and their support persons. The topic at this meeting will be, "What is a Stroke?"

**Diabetes Support Group:** Tuesday, March 24th, 1:00 p.m. In Conference Room A at Noble Hospital.

Free of charge and open to all suffering from diabetes and their support persons. Dr. Kelly D. Burek will speak at this meeting about foot care and the diabetes patient.

### PROGRAMS/COURSES:

**CPR Course:** Two-part course — Wednesdays, March 18th and 25th, 6:30 to 9:00 p.m. (both evenings). In the Education Department/Ground Floor of Noble Hospital.

This course provides American Heart Association Adult, Child, and Infant certification. Cost of the course is \$45.

To register or obtain more information, call the Noble Hospital Education Department at (413) 568-2811, ext. 5914.

**SMOKING CESSATION - "Forgetting Cigarettes:** Mondays, April 6th and 13th, 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. (both evenings). In Conference Room A of Noble Hospital.

This two-part program utilizes hypnosis to eliminate your desires for smoking and allow you to forget cigarettes forever. Presented by Joe Barako, R.N. and Certified Hypnotherapist.

The registration fee is \$40 and is paid the evening of the first session. Seating is limited, and pre-registration is required.

To pre-register or for more information, call Noble Hospital's Health Beat at (413) 568-2328.

**14TH ANNUAL RUN FOR A NOBLE CAUSE — 5-K Road Race and Kid's Race:** Saturday, April 25th, 8:30 a.m. Sponsored by Noble Hospital.

Registration is limited to 350. The registration fee is \$8 in advance, and \$10 on the day of the race. The Kid's Race is free.

Awards will be given for all divisions. Call Noble Hospital's Health Beat, (413) 568-2328, for a registration form or more information.

## New Support Group For Alzheimer's Disease At The Atrium

The Atrium at Cardinal Drive has announced a new support group for individuals in the early stages of Alzheimer's disease. This early diagnosed group will meet from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. on the third Tuesday of every month.

The next meeting is planned for March 17th at the new assisted living facility located at 153 Cardinal Drive in Agawam.

Support groups offer a safe environment to share ideas, feelings, and concerns. For more information, call 788-7700 or 821-9911.

## Lectures At Center Of Hope In Westfield

The Center of Hope is pleased to present a lecture by Karen Kulakowski, RD, titled, "Trans Fatty Acids and Preservatives as Carcinogens."

The lecture is scheduled for 7:00 p.m. on **Thursday, March 19th** at the Center of Hope, 86 Court St., Westfield. Free and open to the public. Call (413) 562-1191 for more information.

\*\*\*

The Center of Hope is pleased to present a lecture titled, "Health is a Balancing Act." The lecture is scheduled for 7:00 p.m. **Thursday, March 26th** at the Center of Hope.

Free and open to the public. Call (413) 562-1191 for more information.

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*Please remember that our deadline is each Tuesday at 12:00 noon; however, we appreciate any articles, press releases, etc., that can be brought in on Mondays. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter...*

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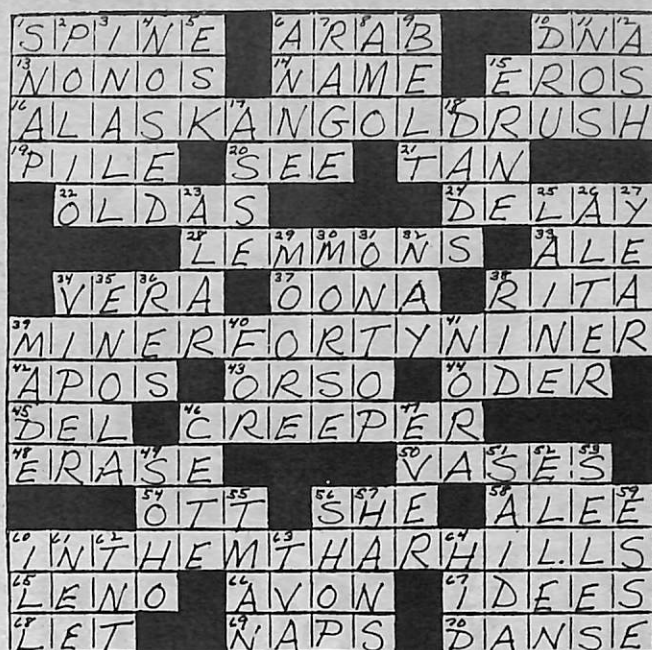


# Arts

## ACROSS

- 1 Ship (Jap.)
- 5 Funny ones
- 9 Hole in one
- 12 Grotto fliers
- 16 Type of type
- 18 Female friends (Fr.)
- 20 Bird of peace
- 22 "Step —"
- 23 Add up
- 24 Moon trench
- 25 Prayer ender
- 26 Pilaster
- 27 — way
- 31 Actress Harper
- 32 Golfer Ernie
- 33 Ceases
- 34 Cleaned up
- 38 Engrossed
- 40 Bestow on
- 44 Operatic highlight
- 45 Scrooge expletives
- 48 Mountain in Thes-saly
- 52 "Busy as —"
- 53 Roadside stopovers
- 54 Storm
- 55 "— Helm" (Dean Martin role)
- 56 Jot
- 57 Way—
- 63 Ruling body in France
- 64 Infamous Marquis
- 65 Italian harp
- 66 Shoe width
- 67 Truth stretcher
- 70 Ulterior (abbr.)
- 71 Mix
- 72 "Not — rule"
- 75 Producer Schary
- 76 Feat
- 78 Chesterfields
- 82 — way
- 88 Nothing (Fr.)
- 89 "Have — lease on life"
- 90 Not a touch-tone
- 91 Act sullen
- 92 Put in a snit
- 93 Zhivago's love
- 94 Fashion
- 95 Composer Charles
- 96 Actor Richard
- 98 Village People hit
- 101 Serves up the re-freshments
- 103 Nero was one
- 107 Prince Valiant's son
- 108 "The Temple of —" (Harrison thriller)
- 110 — way

## Last Week's Solution...



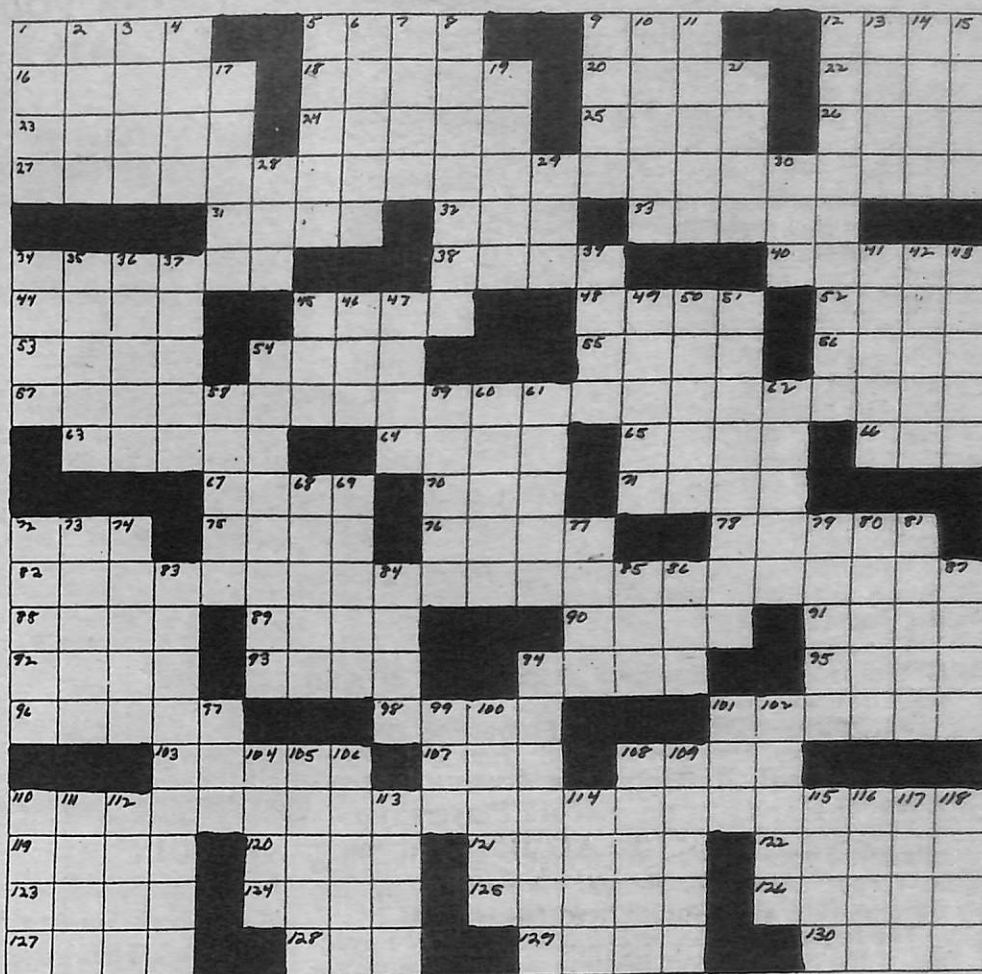
- 119 Singer Ella
- 120 Exist
- 121 Siesta sound
- 122 Scary
- 123 Alda
- 124 Brooklyn grower?
- 125 More ashen
- 126 Quaid of film
- 127 Funny Foxx
- 128 Annex
- 129 Replants a lawn
- 130 Meadows

## DOWN

- 1 Shea's team
- 2 Lotion ingredient
- 3 Actress Gam
- 4 Beehive state
- 5 Heats up
- 6 Wrong
- 7 Desert monster
- 8 "Pink Panther" star
- 9 "Forever and —"
- 10 Comet heads
- 11 Occurrence
- 12 Petty officer
- 13 Diva Moffo
- 14 S.A. monkey
- 15 Luminary
- 17 Put on cloud nine
- 19 "— bill of goods"
- 21 Inside (comb. form)
- 28 Buttons or Grange
- 29 Nostradamus trait
- 30 Health farm
- 34 Show patience

- 35 Peter and Penzias
- 36 Char
- 37 Wearing
- 39 Large book
- 41 Residence
- 42 Loose laces solution
- 43 Patriot Silas
- 45 Ingot
- 46 Ripen
- 47 Word on a towel
- 49 Spanish halls
- 50 Begin
- 51 Abnormal
- 54 Sensible
- 58 Nick of golf
- 59 "Desert Storm" coalition member
- 60 Loafer
- 61 Hold back
- 62 Burr or Hank
- 68 Omni is one
- 69 "— to" (name)
- 72 Roman courtyard
- 73 Bake eggs
- 74 Staggering
- 77 The "dead" bird
- 79 Own up to
- 80 Treasure
- 81 Superintendent (colloq.)
- 83 Softball pitch
- 84 Not home
- 85 Feel poorly
- 86 Mom's partner
- 87 Capone's nemesis

## MEET THE MASTER - by Dick Mastroianni



- 94 Tomorrows, south of the border
- 97 "Ask — what..."
- 99 Atlas feature
- 100 Like new dollar bills
- 101 Cape named for a fish
- 102 "Forever —"
- 104 Shed
- 105 Blazing
- 106 Type of orange
- 108 Ventured
- 109 Unique ones
- 110 Bring up
- 111 He (Latin)
- 112 Pleased
- 113 Remove the skin
- 114 One way to plead
- 115 Actual
- 116 French department
- 117 Opera in Egypt
- 118 Pashas

## Operation Friendship Slates 'Mystery Dinner'

Operation Friendship will be presenting "Dorothy Dinsmore, Gossip Columnist" on March 28th and April 4th at 6:30 p.m.

Performed by the Drama Studio Ensemble, the plot revolves around the story of a gossip columnist who has information on several members of the jet set. Dorothy hosts an evening dinner party where she tells her guests exactly what she plans to do with the information she has dug up unless they contribute to her "retirement fund."

The menu for the evening will be breast of capon, roast beef, or vegetarian. Tickets are \$15 and all funds will support local youths' travel this summer.

Call 786-7898 or 789-2410 for reservations and ticket information. Please leave a message if you get an answering machine.



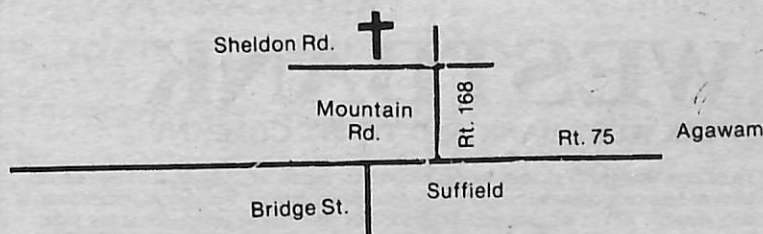
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**SPRINGFIELD RESIDENTS** David Owen and David Harvey in the Encore Players' upcoming production of "BEAU JEST" at the Lower Level Theater, St. Luke's Church, 961 St. James Avenue, Springfield (near Serv-U). Call (413) 594-5833 for tickets.

## Encore Players To Present The Comedy "BEAU JEST"

David Harvey and David Owen, both from Springfield, are featured in the next Encore Players' production, "BEAU JEST," written by James Sherman.

Both Davids play the "gentile" suitors of the daughter in this comedy of a New York Jewish family. George Dawson is the producer and director, assisted by Lynn-Ann Dawson as the stage manager and Carol Belthazar doing props.

The show is a comedy about the lives of the Goldmans, a New York City Jewish family. Their eligible daughter Sarah's romantic life is the comic source for the production.

The show will be at the Lower Level Theater, St. Luke's Church, 961 St. James Avenue, Springfield (near Serv-U) on March 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd and 27th, 28th, and 29th. Curtain is at 8:00 p.m. except for two Sunday matinees at 2:00 p.m.

Tickets are available for \$7-\$9 at The Golden Peacock on White Street at Sumner Avenue, Springfield or at the door. Ticket reservation is recommended. Call (413) 594-5833.

## Agawam Public Library Has Activities For Kids

### "PLAY WITH YOUR FOOD" AT THE LIBRARY

Agawam and Feeding Hills children aged four and up are invited to the Agawam Public Library on Wednesday, March 18th from 6:30-7:30 p.m. for a program based on the book "Play With your Food," by Joost Elffers.

Children will be able to create and eat some special "critter" snacks after they listen to stories.

Please register by calling 789-1550, or visiting the library.

### "FLOWER POWER" DROP-IN CRAFT

The Agawam Public Library will offer a drop-in craft for Agawam and Feeding Hills kids aged four and up, on Saturday, March 21st, between 11:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m.

Youngsters are invited to charge out a library book, and pick up a packet of materials for making paper flowers. Packets can be assembled in the library, or taken "to go" to complete at home.

Call 789-1550, or visit the library to register.

\* \* \*

Check our classified ads each and every week...

\* \* \*

## "Aladdin" Is Coming To Feeding Hills!!!



**ALADDIN** (JOHN ALBANO OF WEST SPRINGFIELD - center) protects the Sultan's daughter (Sara Dorans of Agawam) and his magic lamp from the clutches of the evil magician Mabrubrek (Joshua Lewin of Agawam) in STAGE's newest production, "Aladdin," at The Red Door Theatre in Feeding Hills. Performances are March 13th, 14th, and 15th. Call (413) 789-2026 to reserve tickets.



## Notice of Public Hearings

*The Pioneer Valley Transit Authority will hold a series of public hearings regarding a uniform fare structure for the paratransit van service. The first series of public hearings will be:*

### Thursday, March 19, 1998

10:00 a.m.

Westfield Council on Aging  
40 Main Street  
Westfield, MA 01085

### Wednesday, March 25, 1998

12:30 p.m.

Agawam Council on Aging  
62 Meadowbrook Manor  
Agawam, MA 01001

### Thursday, March 26, 1998

12:00 p.m.

West Springfield Council on Aging  
128 Park Street  
West Springfield, MA 01089

### Proposed fares are:

In-town	.50 cents each way
Out-of-town	\$1.00 each way
Out-of-county	\$1.50 each way

Interpreters and transportation will be provided if needed. Please call PVTA's Special Services Department at 734-1040 or 1-800-922-0178. For questions or additional information, please call PVTA at 732-6248. PVTA will also accept any comments in writing. Please address them to PVTA, 2808 Main Street, Springfield MA 01107. These locations are ADA accessible for people with disabilities.







## Education

### Agawam Schools Celebrate Birthday Of Dr. Seuss

In conjunction with the NEA (National Education Association), observance of Dr. Seuss's birthday on March 2nd (through the "Read Across America" campaign to increase national literacy), and their teacher's personal love of Dr. Seuss's writing, Mrs. Susan Mutti's ESL students had the opportunity to experience many of his well-known author's works.

A two-week unit of "Seuss study" culminated on March 2nd with activities, games, displays, videos, and a "Happy Birthday, Dr. Seuss" celebration.

At James Clark Elementary School, Mrs. Mutti read aloud to the first-grade students in Room 7 and the third-grade students in Room 16. Mrs. Greenough's children enjoyed listening to the timeless favorite, *The Cat in the Hat*, followed by a whole-class, rhyming-word matching activity created by Mrs. Mutti.

"It is especially valuable," explained Mrs. Mutti, "to be able to present inclusion lessons to the entire class of students when I provide ESL services to one or more children within a particular classroom. It provides the ESL student(s) with an opportunity to 'shine' and to be an especially important and positive part of the lesson. Sharing their ESL teacher with their classmates brings a sense of pride to these children, as well as an increased sense of belonging."

The third-grade students in Mrs. Modzelewski's class enjoyed a read-aloud of *And to Think That I Saw It on Mulberry Street*. The children were challenged to create their own *And to Think That I Saw It...* books as a follow-up creative writing activity.

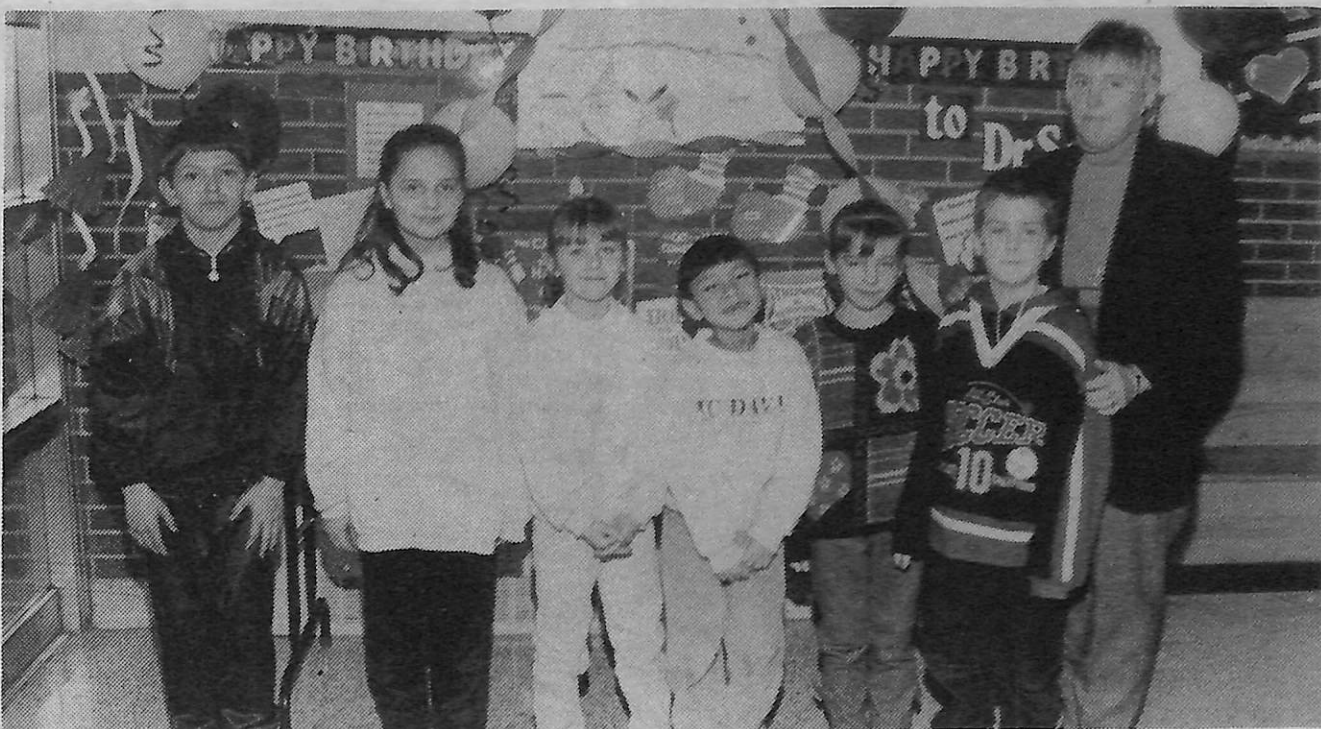
Mrs. Mutti's Robinson Park School ESL students enjoyed Dr. Seuss's special birthday celebration by watching a Dr. Seuss video, reading selected Dr. Seuss stories, reenacting *The Cat in the Hat* with student-made popsicle stick puppets, and enjoying "Happy Birthday, Dr. Seuss" cupcakes.

(Incidentally, baseball great Cal Ripken is a co-chairman of "Read Across America," and on Dr. Seuss's birthday, he planned to read to a group of children on the dugout steps before his spring training game in Florida!)

There were displays available in both elementary schools that honored Dr. Seuss as well as demonstrations of the activities and concepts learned by the children during this unit of study.

Through the use of a multitude of Dr. Seuss books, the children have been practicing reading aloud, listening to read-aloud sessions, re-telling favorite stories through puppetry or dramatization, reinforcing rhyming skills through the use of teacher-made games, as well as creating red fans (on the tail of the Cat in the Hat) with student-generated rhyming word lists.

The more advanced ESL students were able to reinforce reading and writing skills through independent activities such as answering written questions in complete sentences and sequencing



MRS. SUSAN MUTTI (far right) with ESL students at Robinson Park School: fourth graders Andrej Derevganchuk and Yelina Mosiychuk, second grader Lyubov Kiforishan, and first graders Kevin Ung, Katherine Surzhukov, and Khalid Shehemi. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

events from a familiar story on sequence strips, and creating a story board. Identifying the correct speaker from dialogue provided from stories sharpened the children's memories as well as their listening skills during the read-aloud sessions.

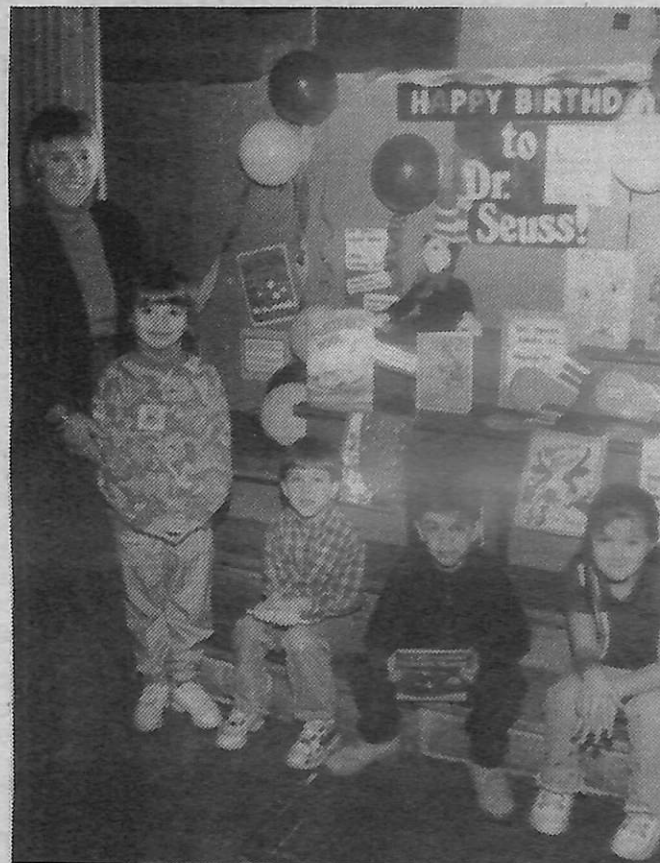
One of the most popular activities was when the children were able to mimic the mischievous Cat in the Hat's antics by following written directions during a multi-sensory learning activity. One student thought it would be "easy" to stand on one foot, balance a book on her head, and spin a ball on one finger. She discovered how agile the Cat in the Hat must have been!

Mrs. Mutti explained that through the use of highly motivating literature (such as that of Dr. Seuss) and implementing varied teaching techniques, her bilingual students are able to learn to speak, read, write, and understand the English language through a "painless" and sometimes almost magical process.

"They often enjoy our lessons so much that they aren't even aware of the great amount of learning that is taking place," stated Mrs. Mutti. "Many concepts and new skills are introduced continually through the hands-on approach in my ESL. We read, cook, create art projects, write books together, and teach each other new things each day. It is a joy to work with this multi-cultural population!"

Other classrooms at Robinson also took part in the birthday celebration. The children in Miss Breuninger's class commemorated Dr. Seuss's birthday by bringing in their favorite Seuss book and then reading it to a classmate.

Meanwhile, the third graders from Room 13 read a favorite Dr. Seuss story to their first-grade buddies from Room 2.



MRS. MUTTI with students from Mrs. Greenough's grade one class at Clark School: Kasia Nowik, Stephen Bognar, Alex Koulgeorge, and Amanda Arbelaez. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

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## Agawam High Guidance Report

by Paul C. Cavallo  
Chairman

### Guidance Bulletin

**SCHOLARSHIPS:** See your counselor for more information or an application.

**American Legion Department of Mass. Scholarship:** Seven \$1,000 scholarships and 10 \$500 scholarships will be awarded to the child/grandchild of a member of the American Legion Post within the Department of Massachusetts. Deadline: April 1, 1998.

**Paul Golden Memorial Scholarship:** This scholarship will be awarded to a graduating senior from Massachusetts who plans to enroll in a two- or four-year college. Recipients of the award will be chosen according to need, determination, citizenship, and scholarship. A total of five \$750 scholarships will be awarded. Deadline: March 27, 1998.

**Michael T. Dobiecki Memorial Scholarship:** Criteria for this scholarship are scholastic achievement, outside activities, community endeavors, citizenship, financial need, and intention to attend a four-year, degree-granting university or college. Deadline: March 31, 1998.

**"Will to Win" Asthma Athlete Scholarship:** All high school seniors with asthma who have achieved excellence in competitive sports and a superior high school academic record are eligible. Deadline: April 30, 1998.

**John C. "Chips" Quinn, Jr. Scholarship:** This scholarship will be awarded to a minority student interested in studying journalism in college. Deadline: May 29, 1998.

**Katherine Gibbs Scholarship Competition:** Open to high school seniors who plan to attend Katherine Gibbs.

\*\*\*

**OPEN HOUSES:** See your counselor for more information.

**Explore Mount Holyoke College:** March 27th, April 3rd, April 10th, April 17th, and April 24th, 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

## Italian-American Societies/Clubs Have Scholarships Available

The United Italian-American Societies and Clubs of Greater Springfield have announced that scholarship applications for high school seniors of Italian descent who plan to go on to college are available at high school guidance offices in the Greater Springfield area (Springfield, West Springfield, Longmeadow, East Longmeadow, Chicopee, and Agawam).

Students of Italian descent interested in applying for the \$500 scholarships to help defray college expenses are urged to contact their guidance counselors for an application. *Completed applications must be postmarked no later than April 1, 1998.*

For further information, please contact Frank Stirlacci at 739-0024.

## Agawam's DLT Joins In National Videoconference

by Kathy Cassanelli  
News Editor

Parents and community members of the School Department's District Learning Team (DLT) joined with their peers across the country in participating in a national videoconference profiling three local initiatives aimed at building new relationships between the public and public schools last week.

Junior High School technology teacher John Burns made the arrangements for the DLT members to view a nationally televised conference sponsored by the Annenberg Forum at Brown University as a means of determining the value of having regularly scheduled educational forums made available to the public.

Among the common threads running through the three presentations, DLT members found several parallels to the problems their committee is working on locally. The most significant similarity linking Agawam to the three communities highlighted in the broadcast was a commitment to site-based management teams working to improve student learning and communication between parents and the schools.

DLT member Eileen Ratkiewicz felt a sense of optimism in listening to the success stories of other school districts in involving parents and the entire community in improving the educational environment of the students.

"Certainly, in a community the size of Agawam, the possibility for positive change is there," Mrs. Ratkiewicz said.

The live videoconference included three segments featuring parents, community members, students, teachers, and administrators from Dorchester (Mass.), Baltimore (Maryland), and Pattonville (Missouri) discussing the challenges and successes of their efforts to improve the relationship between the public schools and the community. After listening to the three presentations, videoconference participants from sites all over the country had the opportunity to join the discussion by calling in with their questions.

Although time ran out before the question posed by the Agawam group could be addressed, the four DLT members heard questions similar to those posed by the local group phoned in from other parts of the country.

Burns said he had invited the DLT members to the videoconference to judge whether similar programming available from the federal and state departments of education would be of interest to parents and community members in Agawam. After the two-hour-long conference ended, the verdict was unanimous. The DLT members agreed the program had been well worth their time and they would definitely be interested in attending and convincing their friends and neighbors to join them for similar programming in the future.

Burns agreed to make similar free educational programming offered through federal and state agencies available to the DLT and to the public. Dates and times for future videoconferences and discussion groups will be published in *The AAN*.

## ADVERTISER NEWS

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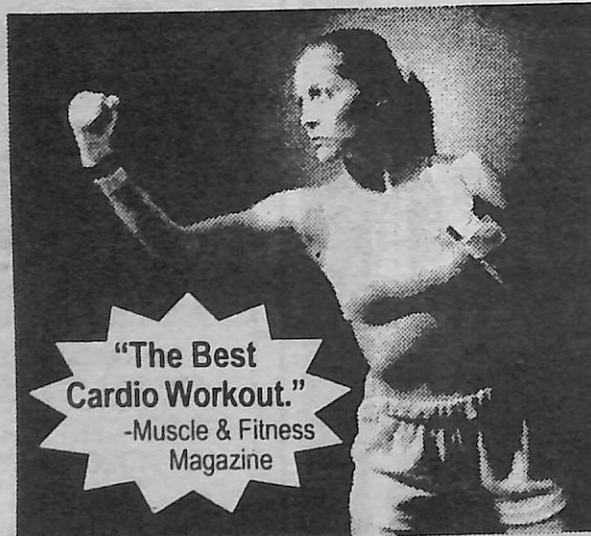
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## Agawam Schools' Weekly Lunch Menu

**Monday, March 16th:** Cheese-topped pizza, tossed garden salad with spinach greens and Italian dressing, chilled peaches, milk.

**Tuesday, March 17th:** Cheeseburg in roll, steamed parsley rice, seasoned green beans, chilled mixed fruit or pistachio pudding, milk.

**Wednesday, March 18th:** Oven-baked chicken nuggets, whipped potatoes, seasoned baby carrots, bread and butter, fruit cup or chocolate brownie, milk.

**Thursday, March 19th:** Taco boat with cheese topping, milk taco sauce, niblet corn, cinnamon applesauce, lemon pudding with topping, milk.

**Friday, March 20th:** Sliced turkey sandwich in roll or Fluffernutter, oven potato puffs, tossed garden salad with spinach greens and dressing, chocolate cake with icing, milk.

## Agawam Schools To Hold Screenings For Kindergarten

The Agawam Public Schools will be conducting registration and screening of children entering kindergarten in September 1998. Children who will be five (5) years of age prior to October 1st are eligible for enrollment in kindergarten in September.

Chapter 766, the Massachusetts Special Education Regulations, requires that each school district provide services for identifying children with special needs. Screening is not a test nor an in-depth evaluation, but an observance of how a child is growing in different areas of development.

A screening team, composed of specialists, will be observing the children's development in several areas, namely: speech, language, gross and fine motor, behavior and physical development. This process will be completed during the kindergarten registration which will be held at the elementary schools.

Screening dates are as follows: **Clark School, April 2nd and 3rd; Phelps School, April 16th and 17th; Granger School, April 30th and May 1st; Robinson Park School, May 7th and 8th.**

Parents who have not already contacted their neighborhood school should do so immediately. Children will be screened by appointment only.

## Happy 17th Birthday Erin!



Love,  
Mom, Dad, John, & Josh





TRACY MCGUIRE, an environmental education specialist from BFI Waste Systems, visited Agawam elementary schools last week. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

## Recycle Program Comes To Agawam Schools

Students in grade two at Robinson Park, Clark, Granger, and Phelps Schools were treated to a recycle program by Tracy McGuire from BFI Waste Systems. The program is called "Mobius" after the international symbol for the environmental cycle, the recycling industry's familiar triangular arrows.

Students learned about the impact of solid waste on our environment and how they can be part of the solution by "recycling, reducing, and reusing."

The finale included a visit from MOBIUS, a six-foot character that helped children visualize the cycle in the recycling system. Children also received Mobius fun books.

Thank you, BFI Waste Systems, for providing this free program to Agawam students.

## Highlights Of The Agawam Junior High School PTO's February Meeting

Agawam Junior High School PTO President Patrick Decoteau convened the February meeting at 7:30 p.m. in the school cafeteria.

A motion was made, seconded, and passed to accept the January minutes. Several funding requests were approved in January:

- a request to sponsor the registration fees for those children to attend the *Western Massachusetts District Junior Music Festival* to be held in March;
- a request to sponsor a pizza party for the *Accelerated Reader Program*;
- a request from the Writer's Club to have their journal, "The Write Stuff," to be published professionally;
- a request for "STAFF" t-shirts for students who assist and participate behind the scenes at school events and activities; and,
- a request for a \$50 savings bond to go to the winner of the school's *National Geography Bee*.

Three additional requests for February were discussed and approved. These included:

- a request to purchase 18 t-shirts for the upcoming *Volleyball Olympics*;
- a request for an honorarium for the master potter who has been visiting all art classes; and
- separate requests for two individuals who will be portraying a *British soldier* and an *American soldier* for the 8th grade classes studying the *American Revolution*.

With only four monthly meetings left before the end of the school year, the **Nominations Committee** discussed several ways to recruit new PTO members. Three specific strategies were noted: (a) recruiting at all spring Jr. High School events; (b) having members attend the Middle School PTO meetings; and (c) mention recruitment efforts in an *Agawam Advertiser News* notice.

For next year, there will be several vacancies on the PTO as well as the School Council.

This year, the PTO hopes to elect school council members at the same time as it does for next year's PTO. If you are interested in taking an active role in next year's PTO or School Council, or would like more information about these groups, please contact *Principal Kevin Littlefield* at 821-0542 or *PTO President Patrick Decoteau* at 789-1155.

A copy of the proposed parent feedback card for school events was disseminated to those present with changes noted as recommended from the last PTO meeting. Parent comments on the card will be presented at tomorrow's monthly school council meeting.

Mr. Burns reported on the progress being made on the Jr. High School's website. Under his supervision, students have included a listing of school board members, school administrators, and PTO leadership. A "hot button" has been included on the name of the current PTO president that allows e-mail to be automatically sent to him by clicking on his name. In addition, a calendar of events for March has been added with ongoing monthly updates.

Mr. Costanzi reported the recent teacher/staff night held at a local restaurant was a great success. He expressed his appreciation to the PTO for providing some of the hors d'oeuvres. *It was a great opportunity to socialize with staff outside of the work setting.*

Mr. Costanzi also reported on the two ongoing "fundraisers" that have been in process since the beginning of the year. Already under the **A-plus America Program**, the school has earned enough points to purchase a *color printer and scanner*. The **Big Y Points for Education** continue to add up.

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the PTO will be held this coming **Monday, March 16th** at 7:30 p.m. in the school's cafeteria.

## Presentation On Adolescent Substance Abuse

Peter Crumb, Director of Student Services at Longmeadow High School, will be giving a presentation entitled "Signs and Symptoms of Adolescent Substance Use and Abuse." This presentation is open to everyone and is free of charge.

The presentation will take place at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, March 18th, at the Agawam Middle School. The presentation will precede the Agawam Public Schools' Health Advisory Committee meeting.

*Best local news...*

## Jennifer C. Giroux Is On Dean's List At Boston University

Jennifer C. Giroux, a resident of Agawam, has recently been named to the dean's list at Boston University for the fall semester.

Boston University is the third largest independent university in the United States, with an enrollment of nearly 30,000 students in its 15 schools and colleges.

The University offers an exceptional grounding in the liberal arts, a broad range of programs in the arts, engineering, science, and professional areas, and state-of-the-art facilities for teaching and research.

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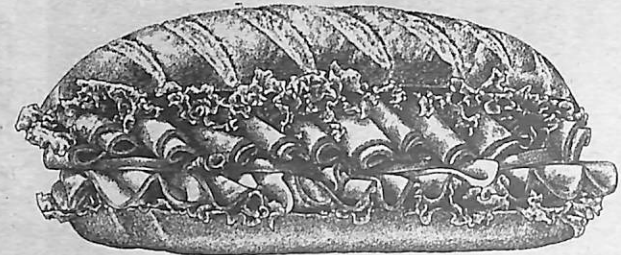
Sincerely,

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Peanut Butter & Jelly	\$2.30		
Meatball	\$2.30	\$2.80	\$3.75
Vegetarian	\$2.30	\$2.80	\$3.75
Salami	\$2.30	\$2.80	\$3.75
Pepperoni	\$2.30	\$2.80	\$3.75
Tuna Salad	\$2.60	\$3.10	\$4.00
Chicken Salad	\$2.60	\$3.10	\$4.00
Chicken Cutlet	\$2.60	\$3.10	\$4.00
Chicken Parmesan	\$2.60	\$3.10	\$4.00
Turkey	\$2.60	\$3.10	\$4.00
Sweet Sausage	\$2.60	\$3.10	\$4.00
Honey Ham	\$2.60	\$3.10	\$4.00
Roast Beef	\$2.60	\$3.10	\$4.00
Pastrami	\$2.60	\$3.10	\$4.00
Corned Beef	\$2.60	\$3.10	\$4.00
Seafood Salad	\$2.60	\$3.10	\$4.00
Ham Salad	\$2.60	\$3.10	\$4.00
Egg Salad	\$2.60	\$3.10	\$4.00
Italian Cold Cut	\$2.60	\$3.10	\$4.00

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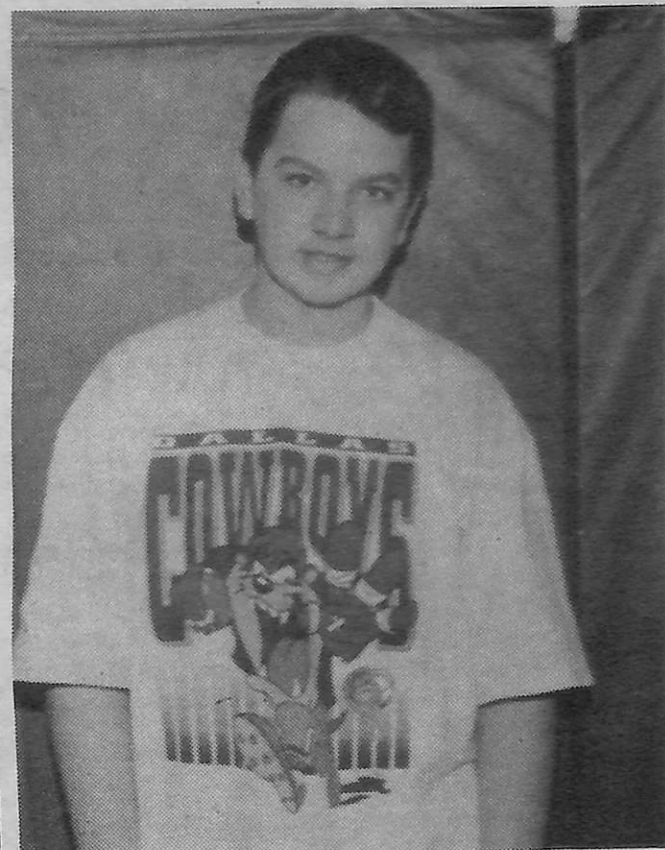
**Toppings:** Lettuce, Tomato, Onion, Hot Or Sweet Peppers, Pickles

**Cheese:** American, Swiss, Provolone, Mozzarella

**Dressings:** Mayonnaise, Deli Mustard, Yellow Mustard, Oil, Oil & Vinegar,  
Ketchup, Salt & Pepper, Garlic Salt, Tobasco Sauce, Horseradish



## “Students Of the Month” At Agawam Junior High



THE FOLLOWING PUPILS at Agawam Junior High School have been selected as art “Students of the Month” (from left to right): Jamie Borkosky, Heather Cox, and Eric McLaughlin. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.



ELIZA DICKMAN, who was named science “Student of the Month” at Agawam Junior High School. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

### Claudine T. Noftall Competes In National Law Competition

Claudine T. Noftall (C.T.), a second-year law student at Loyola University Chicago, School of Law, recently competed in the National Juvenile Law Moot Court competition. The competition consisted of 14 teams and was held at Whittier College in Costa Mesa, California.

C.T. and her teammate, Kim Johnson of Chicago, Illinois, successfully argued their case to become the National Juvenile Law Moot Court Champions. The final round was argued before two California Appellate Court Justices and the head of Whittier College's Juvenile Justice Department.

The team was awarded a \$1,000 scholarship in recognition of their achievement. C.T. and Kim also received third place in the “Best Brief” category.

C.T. will be receiving her Juris Doctorate in May 1999 and plans to practice in the area of Child Advocacy. She is a 1990 graduate of Agawam High School and received her Bachelor of Science in Special Education from Boston University in 1994.

Before entering law school, she was a special education teacher at JFK Middle School in Northampton. She is the daughter of Maureen Noftall of Feeding Hills.

### Marcel Blais Attains Dean's List Standing At Fairfield University

Local student Marcel Blais continues to shine at one of New England's top liberal arts institutions, Fairfield University, where he has just made the Dean's list for his sixth consecutive semester.

Blais, a native of Agawam, is a junior math major at the University, where he just added a third minor to his workload. As a result, he is taking 18 credits this semester, but contends that the extra classes are worth the effort.

“I added economics to my curriculum to round out my skills and to learn to apply my knowledge of mathematics. This will assist me in a variety of career options.”

Right now, Blais is considering pursuing a career in actuarial science, or in continuing his math studies at the graduate level. His other minors are in business management and computer science.

Blais is a student in Fairfield's honors program and is maintaining a 3.71 GPA. He is also currently researching new developments in Knot Theory and Topology with Dr. Stephen Sawin at the University. In addition to classes, Blais serves as Metal and Club and Concert Director at the school's radio station, 88.5 WVOF.

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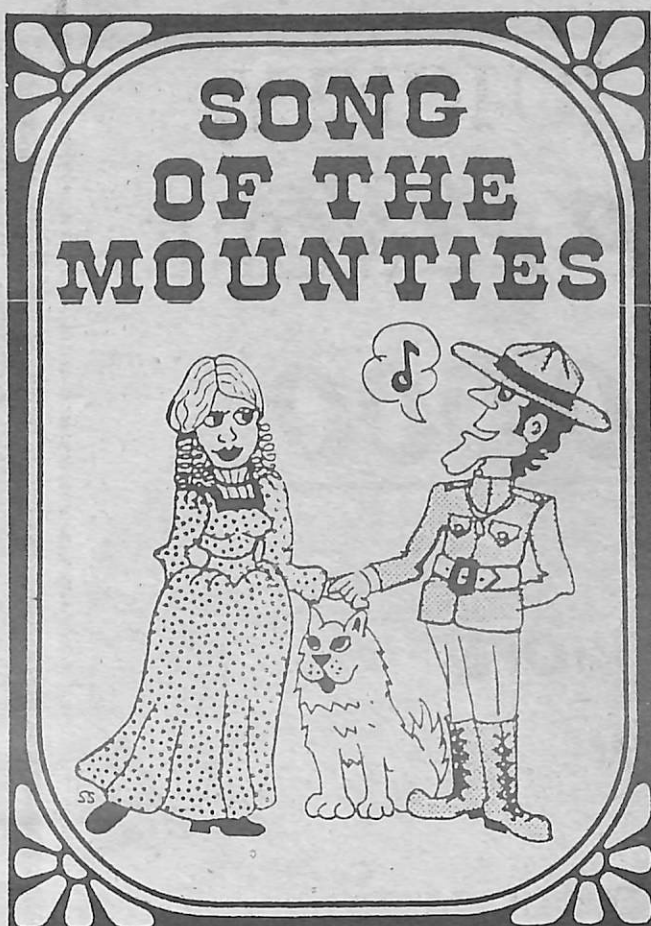
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## Jr. High Drama Club To Present "Song Of The Mounties"

The Agawam Junior High School Drama Club will present the play "Song of the Mounties" on Friday, March 20th, at 7:30 p.m. in the Junior High auditorium.

The performance is free and all are welcome to attend.

## Bay Path College To Offer Two "Decision Days"

Bay Path College will offer two decision days for students interested in attending the four-year private women's college.

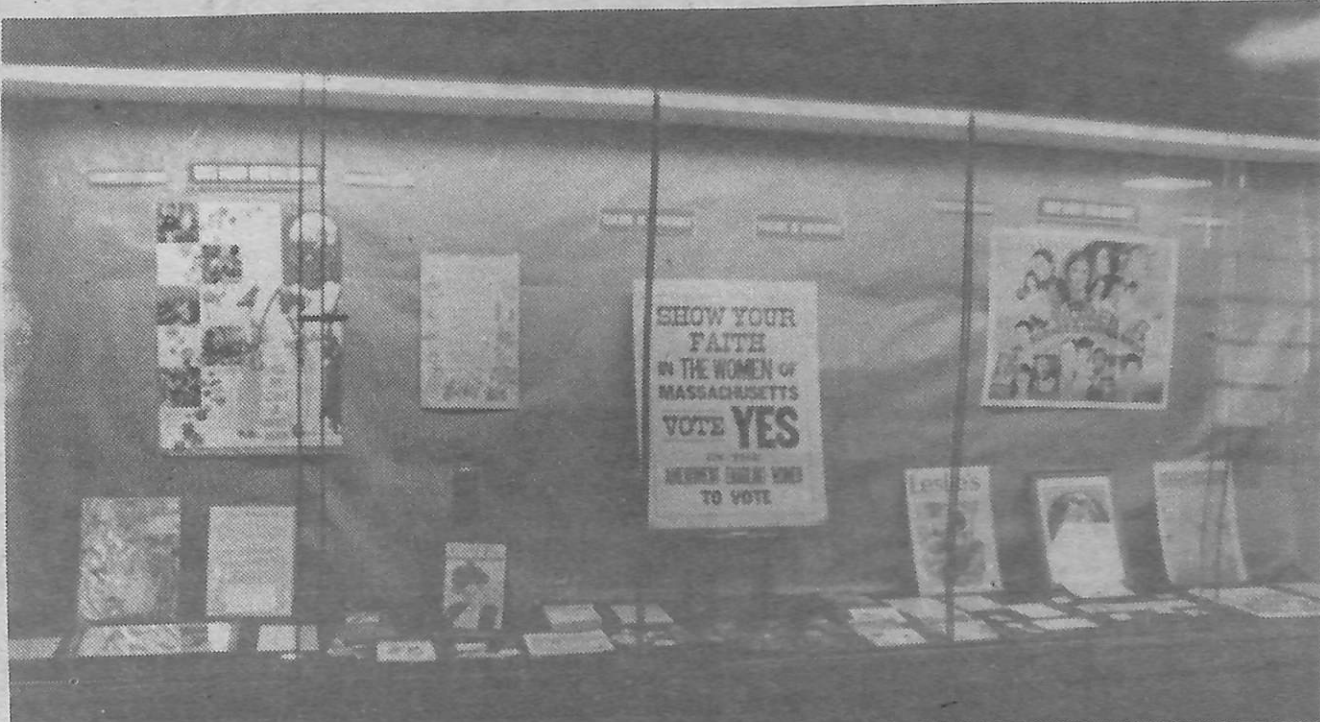
On Wednesday and Thursday, March 25th and 26th, from 4:00-8:00 p.m., prospective students are invited to meet informally with admissions and financial aid representatives, tour the campus, and receive an admission decision. Arrangements may also be made to attend a class.

"One-stop-shopping is the plan," said Dean of Enrollment Caron Hobin. Students who come in with a completed application, high school transcripts, SAT scores, and letters of recommendation will have the application fee waived and received an admission decision before they leave.

For more information, please call the Admissions Office at (413) 567-0621 or toll free at 1-800-782-7284.

*Remember, our  
deadline is each  
Tuesday at noon*

## Showcase For "Women's History Month"...



A DISPLAY IN THE FOYER SHOWCASE (pictured above) at Robinson Park Elementary School commemorates the celebration of "Women's History Month." The display was set up by Mrs. Meanette Vermes. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

## Eleanor Smith Chapter Of National Honor Society Holds Annual Induction At AHS

On February 12, 1998, the Eleanor Smith Chapter of the National Honor Society at Agawam High School held its annual induction ceremony and reception.

Among those inducted were the following seniors:

Katherine Anderson, Heather Arcangeletti, Melissa Berry, Melissa Boissoneault, Sarah Bonini, Tracy Butler, Jessica DeGray, Aimee Dubai, Seema Gada, Rebecca Lee Howard, Ian Lane, Andrew St. Jean, John Szymczyk, and Simon Tyrberg.

Also inducted were the following juniors:

Daniel Balbony, Michelle Beaudette, Erik Bodurtha, Kimberly Bosini, Danielle Bourdeau, Jessica Lynn Briotta, Andrea Cizek, Melissa Crough, Danielle DeForge, Charles Denison, Shaunessy Egan, David Federico, Joseph Fiore,

Jason Flood, Jason Gagne, Christina Gregory, Jason Grimaldi, Erin Hanley, Heather Hughes.

Also, Alison Jackobek, Greg Jubinville, Evan Konopka, Justin Kratovil, Paul LaBarre, Jennifer Loomis, Nicole Macey, Martha Manning, Lisa Marsh, Brenna McGinn, Jennifer McGuire, Leila Mouneimneh, Kornelia Moysis, Sarah Naciewicz, Jennifer Niedziela, Amanda Peters, Roberta Przybyla, Nikita Reshamwala, Rebecca Rising, Crystal Rivers, Brian Rondeau, Shelley Rose, Robert Santaniello, Mario Santillo, Alicyn Siano, Emily Tampone, Laura Tenerowicz, Kara Tierney, and Patricia Zerra.

Also honored was Agawam Middle School Assistant Principal and girls' varsity basketball Coach Louis Conte, who was named honorary member by the students in recognition of his many years of service to the youth of Agawam.

## Carmine A. Battista Attains Dean's List Standing At Merrimack College

Agawam resident Carmine A. Battista, a junior management major, was among students named to the Fall Dean's List at Merrimack College.

To be named to the Dean's List, a student must achieve a minimum of a 3.25 grade point average, based on a 4.0 grading system.

Merrimack College is a private Catholic college located in North Andover, Massachusetts. Founded in 1947 by the Order of St. Augustine, Merrimack College prides itself on providing a high-

quality undergraduate education centered around the liberal arts with strong emphasis placed on professional training and development.

Its 220-acre campus located in the heart of the Merrimack Valley, is home to students from 25 states and 21 countries. Merrimack College was selected as a top tier regional liberal arts college and as a "Best Value" in U.S. News and World Report's 1998 Best Colleges guidebook.

## German Olmo, Jr. Is Named To Dean's List At Middlesex Community College

Feeding Hills resident German Olmo, Jr. was among students named to the Middlesex Community College Dean's List for the fall 1997 semester.

All students carrying 12 credit hour or more, who earn a 3.20 grade point average or higher in any semester without D, F, I, or IP grades are eligible for the Dean's List.

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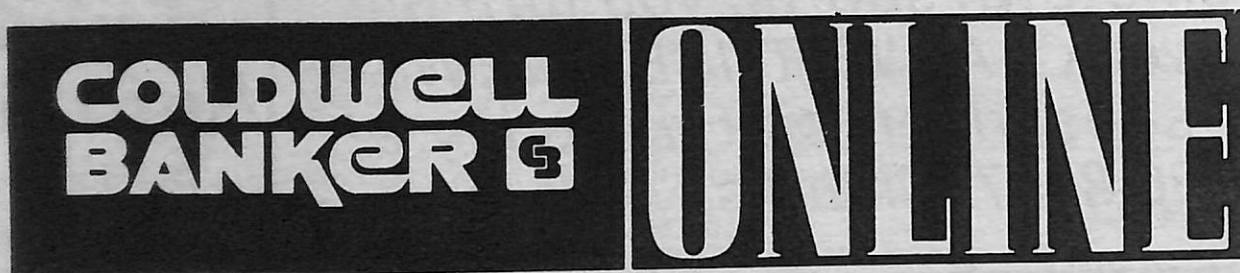


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## Sports

55-50 At Curry Hicks Cage...

# March Sadness For AHS Girls As West Side Takes Div. I Stunner

by Dave Rollins  
Sports Editor

The stunned silence of the large Agawam contingent while the jubilant West Springfield team exchanged handshakes with the Brownies pretty much summed up the unbelievable scene at Curry Hicks Cage at the University of Massachusetts last Wednesday night.

The underdog Terriers, a team twice chewed and skewered by Lou Conte's Brownies during the regular season, had just tumbled the top-seeded locals from the Western Mass. Division I Tournament (and a certain much-heralded rematch vs. Minnechaug Regional on Saturday at the Springfield Civic Center).

That was the local script. AHS would manhandle West Side for the 11th time in the last 12 meetings in the semi-finals, and then train all gun-sites on Minnechaug for a rematch of the 1997 title match and claim to the 1998 regional throne.

But the fifth seeded Terriers came to play. Indeed they did. When it was over, the scoreboard read 55-50. And this was almost as incredible as the final score, since West Side, a run-and-gun team in its own right, held AHS to a paltry 50 points.

### It Wasn't Supposed To Be

How could this be? This was virtually the same cast of Brownies who had wiped-out West Side by a huge margin in last year's Division I semi-final at this very same place. And what about this year's two blowouts?

West Side always gave its best but that was never nearly enough as AHS had more speed and much more firepower when all was said and done. Perhaps the only ones at Curry Hicks Cage who felt the kids from across the river had a chance were the ones who lived there with them. And that, even at best, must have seemed like some Hollywood script where the big underdogs sent the huge favorites to the showers.

This script might have held more meat for the West Side partisans after their team's solid and convincing 81-69 victory over Taconic in the on-the-road quarterfinal. Taconic is no slouch but looked slow against the faster and more athletic Terriers.

Meanwhile, the Brownies authored a demolition job on Westfield High by about five touchdowns in their quarterfinal laughter at Kibbe Gym. It was supposed to be that West Side was

nearly one more step on the path of the major motion picture event that was upcoming against Minnechaug.

For the vast following of AHS girls' basketball, the semi-final was more like a bad B movie.

The Brownies played their worst first half of the season and still trailed by only 22-17 at the break. West Side was locked into a tenacious zone and allowed the Brownies plenty of good looks from the outside. AHS couldn't hit the ocean.

AHS opened things with two easy hoops (one on a Barbara Maloni layup). And with only seconds gone, the pattern of so many games between these two teams was taking form.

Those two early field goals were probably the only two AHS didn't scratch and claw for the rest of the way. West Side tied it at 6-6 and then outscored the locals 16-11 the remainder of the half. The locals didn't hit anything from the perimeter, although West Side dared them to time and time again.

Also, West Side stole a page out of the Brownies' playbook by seeming to be a half-step faster when chasing down loose balls or grabbing rebounds that rattled about.

The second half will undoubtedly be forever etched in the minds of West Side's two marquee 1,000-point seniors, center Colleen McCaffery (22 points) and two guard Becky Donahue (16 points).

These were the 16 minutes when Kristen Patterson (1,000-point scorer), Amber Conte, Maloni (1,000-point scorer), Melissa Cote, and Pia Bertone-Gross finally did not beat their brains in for the seemingly 1,000th time since this group began competing against each other way back in grammar school.

West Side's dynamic duo were outstanding down the stretch as were their teammates, who didn't whittle and whither under the extreme AHS pressure.

### Agawam On Verge Of Taking Charge

As the second half unfolded, the Brownies, as expected by their legions, exploded back into the game and actually appeared on the verge of taking charge.

Patterson (12 points), at the point, canned a three. Maloni hit one (22 points, 16 in the second half). Conte (3 points) connected on another. Cote (7 points) was playing her typically rock solid in-

side defense while rebounding with authority.

Patterson's second three put AHS up, 38-34 with just over seven minutes left. The AHS partisans were going crazy; the game had turned into the type of chaos that had so badly burned West Side so many times before. Patterson's trey put AHS on a 21-12 run and a four point lead.

What may be remembered as the game's most defining moment occurred on West Side's next possession. With the AHS defenders looking to create more havoc, West Side's Sarah Baker, directly in front of Coach Deke Pillsbury's nose, launched what looked like an NBA three-pointer. Swish. 38-37.

Agawam's momentum was lost. West Side fully regained its poise.

Down the stretch, West Side outgunned the locals, 18-12. It all started with Baker's three.

With 2:50 to go, a Maloni layup tied it at 45 each. McCaffery and Donahue then stepped to the plate and put West Side on a seven point run that dumped AHS into a deep hole at 52-45.

Donahue hit a key three pointer the conventional way during that critical juncture. Agawam answered with a mini-run of its own when the incomparable Patterson drained a marvelous three-pointer from downtown Amherst.

Trailing 53-50, AHS had one last gasp when great defense, the signature of schoolgirl basketball under Lou Conte, was rewarded with the ball with about 25 clicks left. On the ensuing race up court, McCaffery (14 rebounds, terrific inside game) blocked the shot and the loose ball went to West Side with less than 20 seconds remaining.

Agawam was forced to foul. West Side canned its free throws. Agawam would not score again. A few seconds later, it was over. The crazed gals in blue and their fans began to hug and cheer.

West Side would go on to be blasted by Minnechaug in a totally one-sided Division I final on Saturday at the Civic Center. Many would say after the huge upset that AHS-Minnechaug would have been the barnburner - the real championship, and that West Side would leave its best game at Curry Hicks Cage.

Maybe so. But last Wednesday night as the buzzer sounded, no one in West Side really cared.

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MEMBERS OF THE AGAWAM HIGH SCHOOL VARSITY AND JUNIOR VARSITY CHEERLEADERS are all smiles after the winning the 1997-1998 Western Mass. title.

## AHS Cheerleaders Win WMass Title

by Kathy Cassanelli  
News Editor

It's already been an excellent year for the Agawam High School varsity cheerleaders, and their competition season isn't over yet.

Later this month, the 18-member team will travel to the CANAM National Cheerleading Competition in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. After receiving a major boost in their fundraising efforts through the sponsorship of Riverside Park and Berkshire Power, the girls have reached their goal of raising the \$10,000 needed to send the team to the prestigious invitational competition in Myrtle Beach.

Now, they're concentrating their energy on perfecting their competition routine as they advance through their usual round of local competitions.

So far, they're on a roll.

On a recent weekend, the varsity team picked up a first-place trophy and two second-place trophies.

For the first time, the team brought home the first-place honors in the Western Mass Championship and they placed second in the Pioneer Valley League, which also doubled as a regional tournament this year. So far, they haven't been able to beat the powerhouse Chicopee High School team, but this could be the year for the self-named Dream Team.

According to junior **Michelle Beaudette**, what makes this team so special is their ability to pool their talents and work together as a team.

"We have so many different talents working together," Michelle said. "This is the team Agawam has been waiting for."

Senior **Sheree Cardin** says the team's hard work is paying off in the quality of their performances. "We've worked so hard on our stunting and tumbling. And with our enthusiasm, we really know how to sell it to the crowd and the judges."

For **Michelle Heim**, the team's spirit and the

fact that they've had their routines put together by a choreographer are two of the reasons why the team has had such a great year. "Our spirit is what makes us stick out from the other teams. Before this year, no one's even thought about going to a national tournament."

**Ella Atkins** wants the town to know how proud the girls are to represent their hometown in a national tournament. Of course, they'll put their best effort into performing their routine for a national audience. But for many of the girls, just being invited is victory enough.

"It doesn't matter what happens," **Aimee Piccin** said. "It's so cool. The fact that we're going makes us proud."

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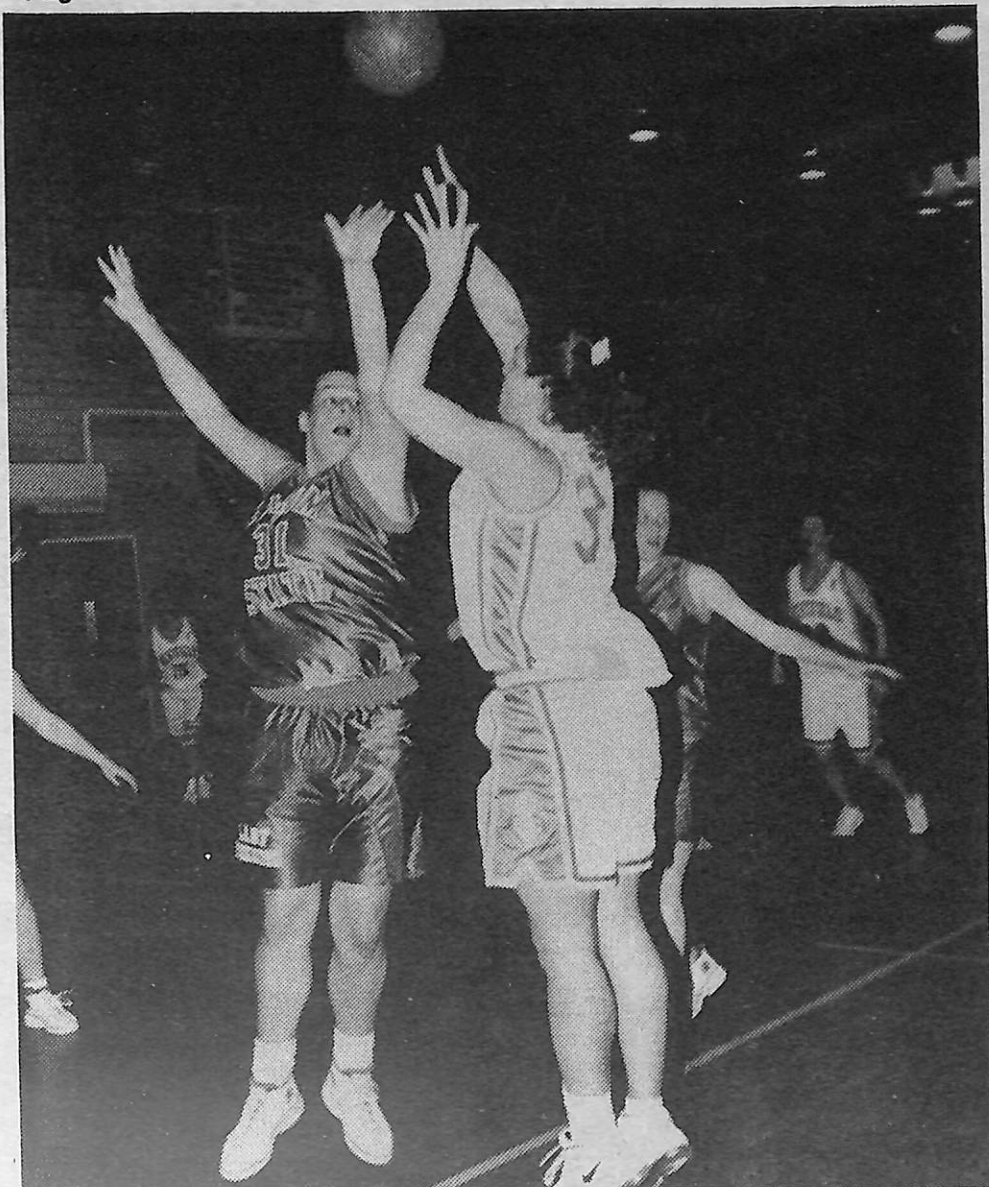


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**FORMER AGAWAM HIGH SCHOOL ALL-WESTERN Mass. basketball player Kristen Schmaelzle** was recently named a second team all-star by the Massachusetts State Athletic Conference for her outstanding play for the Westfield State College Lady Owls. Schmaelzle takes a jumper in photo left and in photo right, one of her trademarks since her high school playing days was playing tenacious defense (usually on players bigger than her as demonstrated in the photo).

## Schmaelzle Sizzles For Lady Owls In Women's Hoop

by Dave Rollins  
Sports Editor

For most of her high school basketball career, Kristen Schmaelzle was a mainstay of the Agawam High girls' basketball team. Her credits upon graduation in 1995 included selection to the All-Western Mass team as a junior and senior, 980 career points, and a 1994 Western Mass title and state final appearance.

Those credentials got the 5'9" center a good look by area colleges. Because she is interested in becoming a teacher, Westfield State was her choice to that end. The Owls also felt she could help their basketball team. Kristen is majoring in elementary education and psychology. "It's a big course load to carry. But you need the double major these days if you are going into teaching," she noted.

Also, Kristen performed admirably for the Lady Owls on the soccer fields last fall. She was an All-Western Mass backliner for the Brownies with a tremendously powerful foot. Like basketball, she plays a relentless, in-your-face style for the Lady Owls, which is her signature from the days performing for the Agawam Soccer Association and Agawam Athletic Association, and then at AHS.

If Kristen is ambitious in the classroom, she is equally so on the hardwood. As a sophomore a year ago, she played in the bulk of the Westfield State games. She got a starting job this season and her talents shone through, leading the Division III Owls to a 20-7 record in the Massachusetts State Athletic Conference. They got all the way to the conference finals before losing to a powerful Salem State team. Their record was good enough to send them to the first round of the ECAC's, where Williams tripped them up. Along the way, she averaged 12.1 points a game along with seven rebounds a contest.

She was recently named a second-team member of the Massachusetts State College Athletic Conference Women's All-Star Team.

### Took A While To Adjust To The College Game...

Kristen says it took her a while to adjust to the college game. "Up here you get pushed around a lot," she smiled. "It's something you definitely have to adjust to." Kristen, whose trademark at

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SEE KRISTEN S. - Page 39...



## Basketball Memories Will Be Cherished By Agawam's Hadden

by Dave Rollins  
Sports Editor

In her career with Agawam High School girls' basketball, Shauna Hadden performed her duties quietly and effectively. She could play power forward, quick forward, and at times, center. She went out and did her job with little fanfare. She was part of the reason that the Brownies went 39-4 for the past two seasons and shared two Valley Wheel titles, continuing the school's long-time prominence in Western Mass. basketball.

Recently, the 5'9" senior took time out to talk about herself and her time at AHS. She turned 18 on March 1st. She has spent four years at Agawam High School.

Her curriculum includes fourth year Spanish, physics, advanced math, and English.

Her favorite course is Spanish. Her favorite teacher is Mary Ellen Bruce, who, not surprisingly, teaches Spanish.

### Heading For Boston

Shauna has been accepted at Suffolk University in Boston. There, she'll major in biology with an eye towards one day becoming a veterinarian.

She plays three sports at Agawam - field hockey, softball, and basketball. Her favorite endeavor is basketball.

Her top sports memory was beating defending state champion Minnechaug Regional on February 18th at AHS. It was a gutcheck game for both the teams and Shauna as well. She was intentionally fouled late in the game, with her club only up by six. If she missed the one-and-one, which the Falcons thought she would do, things could have been different. Shauna calmly stepped to the line and rattled the first one in and then swished the second.

Her take on the season just passed, which ended in an upset loss to West Side last week in the Division I semi-finals: "The greatest experience of my life."

Her favorite food is angel hair spaghetti. Turquoise is her top hue.

### KRISTEN S. - from Page 38...

Agawam High was physical and relentless play from the center position, had to learn a new position — forward. "I wasn't really guard material and they have height at center," she noted.

Luckily, Westfield State had and still has much the same offense as the Brownies. "I ran in high school, so it wasn't that much of an adjustment here. Power forward fits me pretty well." Their defense is man-to-man, which Agawam ran. So, once again, she fit right in. Kristen credited Brownie Coach Lou Conte for her smooth transition to the college game. "Many of his strategies for excelling at the game work in college."

Conte called Kristen an outstanding inside player in high school who often faced opposing centers much bigger than her.

"Kristen was a blue collar worker who didn't care about personal achievements. She was a total team player who always came to play. And she's a real nice person as well," said Conte.

She had several memorable moments for the Lady Owls this season. They included a 24-point, 13-rebound performance against Elms College, and 22 points against Salem State in the conference finals.

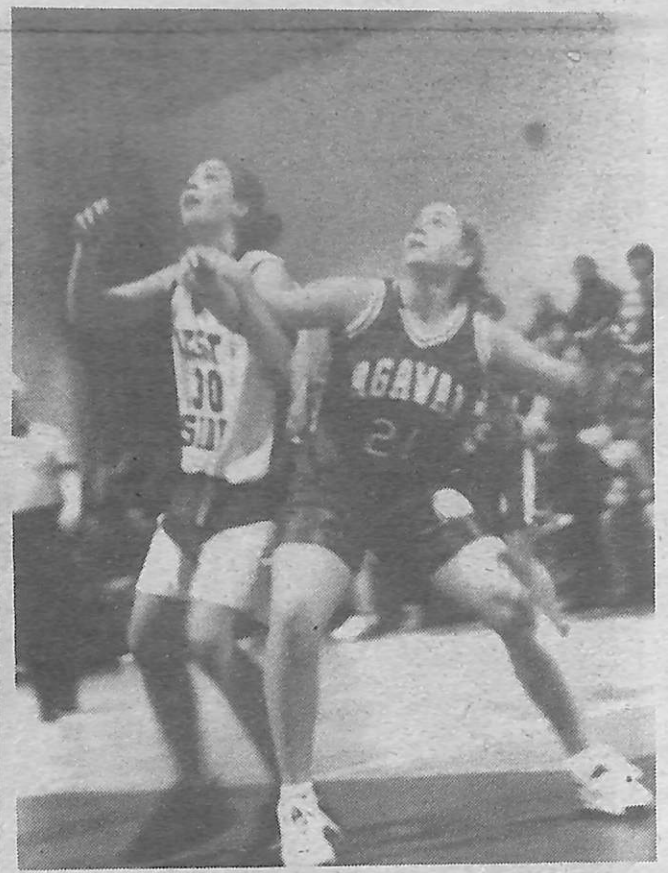
Perhaps the most memorable of all came in the conference semifinals. "We were ahead of Worcester State when they began a big comeback. We showed what we were made of by upping our game to stop the run and get the win," Kristen said. In that one, she scored 13 points and had seven rebounds.

The Owls are a fairly young team. This year they had three seniors, three juniors, and six freshmen. "Everyone got quality playing time, which adds up to experience that will help us next season," she said.

## Turkey Shoots Conducted By Pioneer Sportsmen

The Pioneer Sportsman Club will be conducting turkey shoots on Sundays at 12:00 noon through April 5th.

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**AGAWAM HIGH SENIOR FORWARD** Shauna Hadden was part of a Brownie girls' basketball team that went 39-4 over the past two seasons. The 5'9" Hadden called this recent girls' hoop season "the greatest experience of my life."

A 1996 Geo Prism is the car she likes best. The San Antonio Spurs of the NBA is her top team. She has a reason - Vinny Del Negro of Springfield, one of her favorite athletes, plays for them. She's met Vinny because her uncle, Tim Ayre, is good friends with him.

She likes to hang out at Fitness First with her teammate and pal, Pia Bertone-Gross.

Shauna's choice of attire runs to the casual - jeans and sweaters.

She likes all kinds of music, except for country. "Saturday Night Live" tops the tube for her. "What's Eating Gilbert Grape?" is her number one

flick.

### Grandparents Are Tops

Her mom's name is Linda. Robert is her father's name. She has a sister, Lindsey, who is a stand-out gymnast at AHS who also competes in track.

The people she most looks up to are her grandfather, Anthony Ayre, whom she fondly calls Papa, and her grandmother, Mary Lee.

Shauna will be graduating this spring. When her days are done at AHS, she says she'd like to be remembered as a hard worker with a great attitude who would not give in or give up.

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GETTING READY FOR THE AGAWAM MAWAGA Club's Annual Lunker Derby on March 29th are, from left - Cody, Jessica, and Dale DaRosa, Ernie Leithoff, and Alan Ferrigno. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

## Mawaga Club Slates Annual Lunker Derby For Sun., March 29th

The Mawaga Club's ninth annual Lunker Derby has been scheduled for Sunday, March 29th, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. It will take place on the grounds of the club at 377 Adams Street, Agawam.

There will be three prizes available: \$200 for the first-place finish, \$100 for second, and \$50 for third.

The cost is just \$15 per person, and this includes breakfast which will precede the derby itself from 7:00 to 9:00 a.m.

Tickets for the Lunker Derby are available from the following businesses:

**Dayga Printing**, 662 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills; **American Classics Restaurant**, 740 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills; **Russ's Rooter**, tel. 786-2075; **Frank Pignatere's Auto Service Center**, 395 Main Street, Agawam; **Touchette's Catering, Inc.**, 32 Columbus Street, Agawam; **Fran's Restaurant**, 37 Southwick Street, Feeding Hills; **Partner's Restaurant**, 485 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills; **Southgate Liquors, Inc.**, 842 Suffield Street, Agawam; **Christo's Restaurant**, 664 Suffield Street (Route 75), Agawam; **Forest Park Rentals**, 380 Dickinson Street, Springfield; **Roberts Appliance Service**, 74 So. Park Terr., Agawam; and **John's Getty Auto**, 10 Main Street, Agawam.

## Ag. Parks Dept. Offering Volleyball Starting March 17th

The Agawam Parks & Recreation Department will sponsor Co-ed and Men's Volleyball this spring. Both programs will meet at the Agawam High School gym on Tuesday evenings from 8:00-10:00 p.m. starting March 17th, for six weeks.

Fee is \$15. Registration is now being accepted at the Recreation Office or participants may register the first night of the program.

If you have any questions, please call the Recreation Office at 821-0514.

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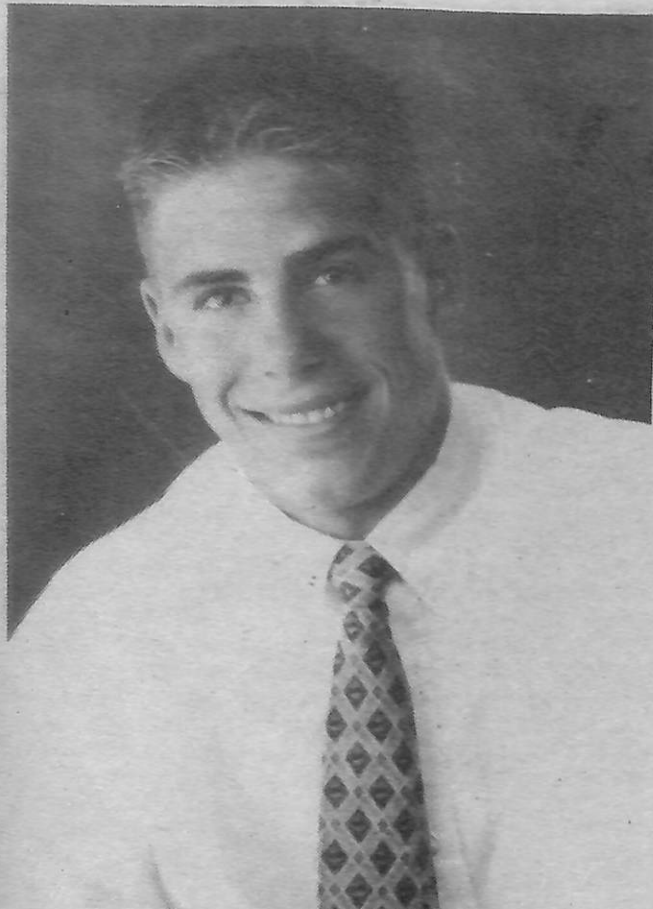


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AGAWAM HIGH SCHOOL wrestlers Kevin McKay (left) and Darrell Malachowski.

## Kevin McKay & Darrell Malachowski To Wrestle At Nationals At Duquesne Univ.

Agawam High School's Kevin McKay and Darrell Malachowski have qualified to participate in the National High School Wrestling Championships to be held at the Pittsburgh Pulte Center on the campus of Duquesne University, March 27th-29th.

Every wrestler who is presently in his senior year of high school and has been a high school State finalist is being invited to compete in this event. Last year, 676 State finalists competed from 46 states.

The top eight finishers in each weight class will

be officially declared high school All-Americans and receive award plaques and certificates for themselves, their coach, and their school.

Contributions to offset expenses for Kevin, Dar-

rell, and Coach Phil Tomkiel will be thankfully accepted. Send contributions to: Donna McKay, 45 Brookside Drive, Feeding Hills, MA 01030.

## AHS's Girls' Ski Team Qualifies For State Competition

Having finished second in division for the season, the girls' team qualified to go to states. Along with the team, two girls qualified as individuals; Jody Bulat and Camilla Ringvold.

As a qualified team, the girls were able to send eight representatives; five racers and three alternates. The representatives were Jody Bulat, Camilla Ringvold, Jessica Ferris, Michelle Clauson, Aimee Devall, Angie Tassinari, Jen Thibodeau, and Laura Charest.

Two of the girls placed in the top 50 in state; Jody Bulat and Camilla Ringvold. The level of competition is very tough, so to break into the top 50 in the entire state, is an accomplishment to be proud of.

Coach Graveline is very proud of the entire team, and especially proud of the group of seniors who led the team through a challenging year. It is going to be extremely difficult to fill the voids left by the graduating seniors, but the coach feels that the younger skiers are more than up to the task.

It is going to be even greater a task next year, because the girls' ski team is now going to be competing in the "A" division. The strong finishes for the last two seasons have placed the Agawam girls in the top echelon of teams. To be competitive in this division, it will take a major commitment on the part of the skiers, and Coach Graveline feels that the younger skiers demonstrate that level of commitment.

"We are looking forward to an exciting season next year. All we need now is for Mother Nature to cooperate with a little natural snow," said Coach Graveline.

*Best local news...*

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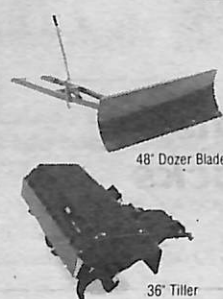
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† Offer applies to Lawn and Garden Tractor financed on Toro's Revolving Charge Plan from February 1, 1998 to May 31, 1998. Subject to credit approval. The Annual Percentage Rate ("APR") may vary from month to month. As of September 1, 1997, the current APR is 21.9% (corresponding monthly periodic rate is 1.83%) with a \$.50 minimum monthly charge. No minimum monthly payment is required until October 1, 1998. Finance charges will be accrued from date of purchase unless paid in full by October 1, 1998.

\*\* Gas or electric trimmer or dump cart free with purchase of a Toro Wheel Horse Garden Tractor and mowing deck between February 14, 1998 and March 29, 1998.



## Volleyball Winners At Phelps School...



**THE FIRST-PLACE WINNERS** in fourth-grade volleyball at Phelps Elementary School: back row - physical education teacher Debbie Lickley, Kala Reid, Noah Turner, Alexis Dumas, Aaron Hibbert, and Sean Gifford; front row - Philip Souliere, Laura Provost, Artem Ardzigirhey, and Alexandra Watt. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



**THE SECOND-PLACE WINNERS** in fourth-grade volleyball at Phelps Elementary School: back row - Joe Greaney, Jillian Little, Sarah MacFazden, Mike DeDeurwaerder, and physical education teacher Debbie Lickley; front row - Danielle Park, Steven Powers, Gennaro Santaniello, Heather Moffatt, and Dan Cirillo. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

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## Girls' Basketball Clinic

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A & B Teams Planned

**Date: March 24, 1998**

5:00 P.M. To 7:00 P.M.

Agawam Junior High School

**Coaches Bob Hersey & Harold Cote**

Any Questions, Call Bob Hersey  
**786-2979** Between 12:00 Noon & 4:00 P.M.





**Outdoors  
New  
England**

by Kent Servis  
Outdoor Writer

### Early Trout Stocking Completed

The Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife has been busy getting the early stocking of trout out in valley waters. Locally, Congamond Lakes (North & Middle Ponds) have received trout, along with Hampton Ponds, Five Mile Pond, and Lake Lorraine.

According to Division sources, this year's trout are some of the largest stocked. A high percentage of the fish stocked are in the 12-plus category. The emphasis on quality fish, rather than sheer numbers, has given Bay State anglers some really nice fish.

Streams and rivers traditionally get their trout a little later in the season, after water levels stabilize from the spring run-off.

Anglers in the Nutmeg State will have to wait until the third Saturday in April to try their luck on most waters. Congamond Lakes in Southwick and Suffield can be fished by anglers licensed in either state. Quite a few Connecticut fishermen take advantage of this, and get a head start on trout season.

Despite this week's rainfall and predicted return to frigid temperatures, SPRING is almost here. In fact, by the time that this edition hits the newsstands on Thursday, there will only be eight days until the official start of SPRING!

Don't get caught off guard! Get that tackle ready. Change to fresh line, sharpen the hooks on your lures, or replace them if they are rusty. Throw a new set of plugs in the outboard and change the lower unit oil if you didn't do it last fall.

One never knows when a fishing emergency could take place (an unusually nice day coupled with a hot fish report and an unexpected "mental health day"). So don't get caught sitting on your hands when such an "emergency" arises.

#### STRIPER ACTION HEATS UP

Reports from the Connecticut and Rhode Island coastal areas are showing signs of an early movement of stripers this year.

The Thames River from Norwich to the mouth in New London produces year-round stripers from the holdovers who do not migrate south. Most are schoolies, but a few larger fish are starting to show up.

The Pawcatuck River on the Rhode Island border should start producing shortly.

Reports indicate that some larger stripers have already started to show up in the lower stretches of the Connecticut River.

They are holding in the deeper creek channels

## St. John's II 7th/8th Grade Girls Win Tourney



**THE ST. JOHN'S II 7th/8th grade girls' basketball team won the Mater Delorosa Bob Morin Memorial CYO Invitational Basketball Tournament with a strong 36-18 victory over Blessed Sacrament I of Holyoke this past Monday evening.** The team started the tournament last Friday night with a stirring victory over St. Mary's I of Westfield, the tournament's top seed and a team that had beaten St. John's II during the regular CYO season on two occasions. On Sunday, St. John's II then easily won the semi-final before Monday night's championship game. On Sunday, March 1st, St. John's II reached the semi-finals of the CYO Lower A League Tournament before bowing to St. Thomas I, a team they had split with during the regular season. Team members include, back row, from left - Coach Ric Sardella, Jessica Newalu, Erin Corbin, Rebecca Niemiec, Anna Ferrentino, Katie Maynard, and Erin McLane. Front row - Erin Jackson, Nicky Gutowski, Kaitlin Sardella, Danielle Cirillo, and Aimee Beaudette. Missing: Tricia Fitchben. The team extends its sincere thanks to St. John's Church for all of their support and kindness during the 1997-1998 season.

and can be taken by bucktailing with a pork rind trailer. Try areas around the channel marker rock piles. These structures are in place to provide a footing for the elevated marker signs which are also numbered. They are right on the edge of the deep water channel and provide ideal structure for the linesiders.

#### JUST A REMINDER

The Mawaga Sportsman's Club's annual Lunker Derby will be held at the Club pool on March 29th. The event is open to any fisherman who purchases a ticket to this great event.

Tickets are available at various locations around town, and the cost of \$15 includes breakfast plus a chance at some really great prizes of cash and merchandise.

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## Riverside Speedway To Open For Practice On March 20th & 21st

Riverside Park Speedway will be open for all divisions to practice on Friday, March 20th from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and Saturday, March 21st from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

There will be a cost of \$10 per person and Riverside Park Speedway Season Pit Passes are not valid on these dates.

Springfield country music station KIX 97.9 FM will broadcast their morning show live from Riverside Park Speedway on Friday, March 20th. Director of Auto Racing Joe Lewandoski is excited about KIX's interest in the Speedway.

"For these guys to broadcast their morning show live from the Speedway is great. I mean, this is just a practice session, and the local media is already excited." Lewandoski said several drivers will be interviewed on the air as part of the station's morning program.

Season Pit Passes will be on sale during the practice session. Drivers, owners, and crew members will also be able to purchase NASCAR licenses during the practice session. All season passes already purchased will be mailed out by March 15th.

Teams seeking additional practice times can rent the track at a rate of \$600 per four hours. Track rentals can be arranged by contacting the Speedway Office. There is a limit of six teams per rental session. Riverside Park Speedway will open its 50th Anniversary season March 28th-29th with the Spring Classic. The PEPSI 200 NASCAR Featherlite Modified Tour race will take place on Sunday, March 29th at 1:30 p.m.

Riverside Park Speedway will host seven NASCAR Winston Racing Series divisions this year including the brand new Teddy Bear Pools Truck Division. The Strictly Stock Division has been re-classified as the Sportsman Division for 1998.

*For all the local news, you turn our pages every week...*

## Baywest Glaciers Compete In District Hockey Playdowns And Advance To States

Mass. Hockey District No. 6 Playdowns took place during February school vacation week with many teams hoping to earn a spot in the state championships.

Currently in first place for the Squirt II division, the Baywest Glaciers knew they had to work hard. Their first opponent was Ludlow. The Baywest Glaciers came out strong and the defense was quick to break up many would-be plays.

Scoreless for most of the first period, Steve Wood scored on a play set up by Eric Cassidy and Josh Edwards at 9:25, 1-0 Baywest.

Thirty-five seconds into the second period, Mike Wood took a shot from the corner and it trickled past the goalie. Cassidy got credit for the assist. Edwards scored the third Baywest goal on a powerplay. He was nicely set up by defenseman Alex Ciborowski and Cassidy. Johnny Bourassa slammed the puck past the Ludlow goalie after receiving a nice pass from Mike Wood.

Mike Landry also got an assist. Leading 4-0 in the third, Julian Partyka was next to score at 5:11. Defensemen Tyler Bokuniewicz and Ciborowski got the assists. Steve Wood scored at 8:25 to make it 6-0, assisted by Edwards and Partyka. Mike Wood came up the left side and skated past the defense and scored in the upper corner.

Defenseman Jeremy Rogalski got the assist. Lastly, at 11:19, T.J. Hamilton went in alone to tuck the puck in the Ludlow net. Edwards got credit for the assist. The final tally was 8-0. Goalie Sarah Bishop made several awesome saves and earned yet another shutout. Eric Cassidy earned a Playmaker Award for three assists in one game.

The Glaciers played hard in the second game against WTM and goalie Sarah Bishop was strong in net, only giving up one goal. Baywest had only one goal in the first period at 1:27 as Mike Wood shot the puck from a tough angle behind the net and it bounced off the goalie's skate and went in.

T.J. Hamilton got credit for the assist. Steve Wood set up a beautiful play with a pass from behind the net and Josh Edwards was able to tuck it in the net. Next, during a powerplay opportunity, Julian Partyka shot the puck on net and Steve Wood scored off the rebound.

Hamilton scored next on a nice play set up by

Steve Wood and defenseman Jeremy Rogalski. Leading 4-0 in the third period, Rogalski passed to Edwards who went in alone down the right side and wasted no time putting the puck up into the left upper corner. It was Mike Wood who scored the final Glacier goal after good hustle around the WTM defense. He was nicely set up by Hamilton. The final score was 6-1.

In the third game, emotions were running high as the Glaciers faced off against Holy Name. Baywest was first to get on the board at 2:25 in the first period when Jeremy Rogalski passed the puck to Mike Wood, who shot it in the net.

Eric Cassidy scored the next Baywest goal on a nice setup by Josh Edwards and defenseman Tyler Bokuniewicz. Steve Wood scored at 6:54 to make it 3-1.

Defensemen Alex Ciborowski and Tyler Bokuniewicz got the assists. Strong defense and the sharp goaltending of Sarah Bishop (22 saves for the game) allowed only one goal in the third period, which gave the Glaciers the 3-2 victory. As Coach Bokuniewicz said, "The Glaciers just refused to lose!"

In their final game, the Glaciers played the Baywest Panthers. Both teams played their hardest. The Glaciers were first to get on the board when Johnny Bourassa skated past the defense to put it in the net, Hamilton got the assist.

Tied 1-1 after the first, defenseman Tyler Bokuniewicz went in alone with an unassisted goal to make it 2-1. Josh Edwards scored the final Glacier goal at 3:31 in the second period on a play nicely set up by defensemen Alex Ciborowski and Mike Landry.

There were many close calls, but neither team allowed any goals in the third. The strong defense of Tyler Bokuniewicz, Alex Ciborowski, Mike Landry, and Jeremy Rogalski helped to keep the puck out of the Glacier zone.

Goalie Sarah Bishop made several outstanding saves. The Glaciers won with a final score of 3-1 to advance to the state championships March 6th-8th in Woburn, Mass.

Good Luck, team!

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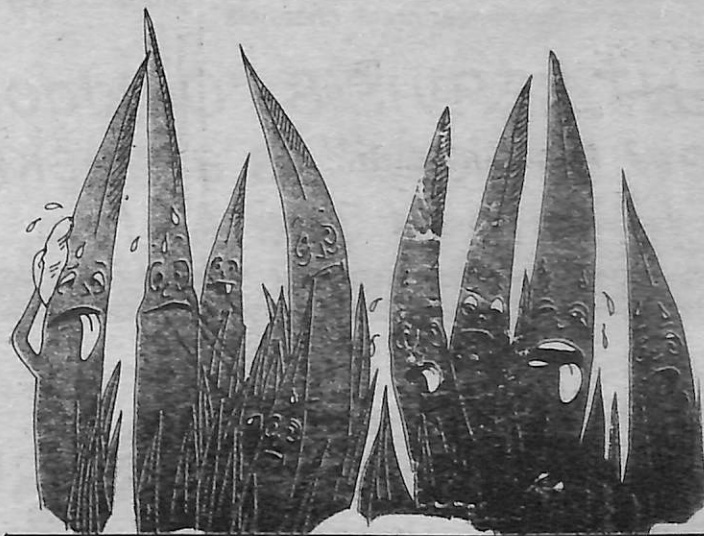
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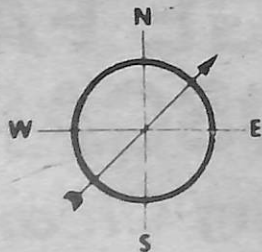
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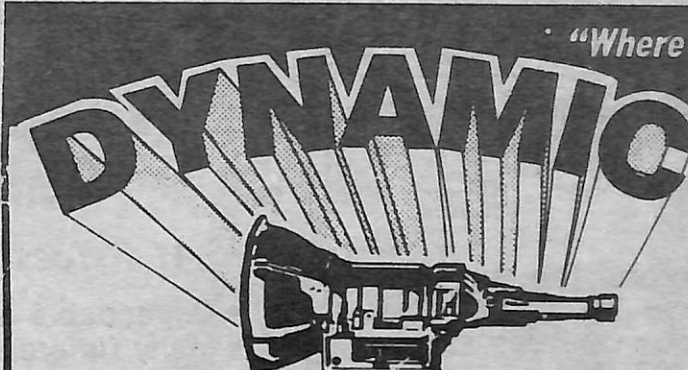


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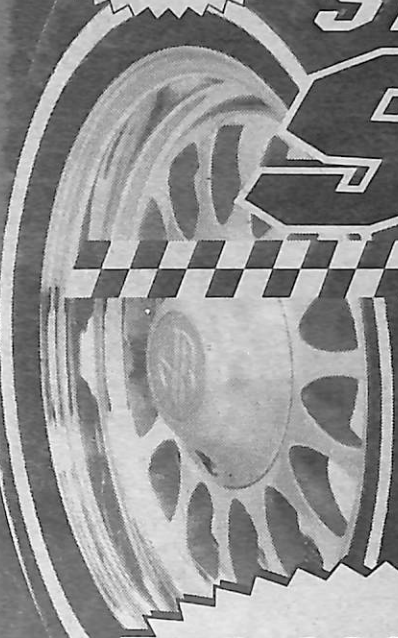
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